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AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF  
RUSSIA.

MDCCCLXVII.

*(by Lord Macartney)*

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Vitam impendere Vero.

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L O N D O N :

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X





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# INTRODUCTION.

ADDRESSED TO

THE KING

**R**USSIA was for ages, as it were, sequestered from the rest of Europe ; and when she first appeared to the political world, it was so faintly, that curiosity, and not necessity, led us to examine the genius and manners of a barbarous country.

Her progress under the Czar Peter, rather excited general admiration, than engaged particular attention : but since she has made such rapid strides to dominion ; since her policy has become systematically regular ; since her trade, manufactures, and finances are so considerably increased ; and since she has so repeatedly and so successfully figured in the affairs of Europe ;

Europe ; she is to be no longer gazed at as a distant glimmering star, but as a great planet that has obtruded itself into our system, whose place is yet undetermined, but whose motions must powerfully affect those of every other orb.

A knowledge of the history, manners, trade, power, and policy of every nation with which Great Britain stands in any degree connected, is essentially material : but united as we now are with Russia by the ties of friendship, commerce, and mutual advantage ; even the minutest circumstances that relate to her, become interesting and important.

Russia is as yet but little or indistinctly known. She has no writers of her own growth, and foreigners have been either incurious or unsolicitous about the subject. It appeared like the view of an immense waste, the prospect seemed lost in its vastness, and wearied the eye with its gloomy distance.

If I am able to throw a new or stronger light on some things already known, or to develop others unnoticed or obscure ; if I can convey to you a clearer idea of this country and its inhabitants, I shall esteem myself happy. I shall trust to your candour, if I fall into errors ; I flatter myself they neither proceed from prejudice nor partiality, but are such only as every  
man

## INTRODUCTION. vii

man is liable to, that ventures to describe a nation whose manners, religion, and government, are dissimilar to those of his own.

Avoiding as much as possible any unnecessary retrospect to the ancient state of the country, I shall endeavor to represent it such as it now is, and to add a few conjectures of what it is likely to be hereafter. What it formerly was, is rather matter of curious disquisition for the historian and philosopher, than of real utility to the minister and politician.

We are to look upon the empire of Russia in the light of a deformed child, the strength of whose constitution has so far conquered his natural defects, that, however they may take away from his beauty, they diminish nothing of his vigor.

Whether this great body is likely to preserve long the same state of health, and strength of frame ; whether it promises short life or longevity, shall be my business to enquire in the following pages : and to do this with the greater truth and precision, it will be necessary to consider, at large, the geographical situation, the form of government, the riches and resources of this empire, the genius and manners of its inhabitants, and the particular periods and events of its history, which either smoothed the paths for gentle changes, or, at length, flung open the gates to an extensive reformation.

And



And for the more easy examination of these points, I shall divide this discourse into a number of Chapters, each of which shall separately treat of its proper object ; after which, I shall draw such conclusions as appear naturally to offer themselves upon the whole ; equally guarding myself against the pretence of extraordinary discernment, and the affectation of paradoxical singularity. I am, however, conscious that some parts of this sketch, if taken separate, may seem contradictory, which, when considered attentively and together, are perfectly reconcileable and consistent. \* I must also observe, that this account will appear, in a variety of instances, very different from any that has been hitherto published : indeed, so many changes have already been made by the present Empress, and so many, still greater, are expected, that a discourse of this kind ought scarcely to be considered in any other light, than as an annual calendar ; I therefore do not presume to give it you under a higher title than that of a Russian Almanack for 1767.

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\* Thus in speaking of a peasant's purchasing his liberty (p. 26 & 29) it is said that the lord claims the peasant's property, and yet that the peasant may apply that property to the purchase of his own liberty : but this business is generally transacted by the friends of the peasant, as being too dangerous for him to appear in himself.



# ACCOUNT OF RUSSIA.

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## CHAP. I. SITUATION.

**T**HE Empire of Russia, in point of extent, is not only the greatest in the world, that now is, but the greatest that ever was : for it comprehends between twenty and twenty-five degrees of latitude from north to south, and upwards of one hundred and seventy degrees of longitude from west to east ; so that its two extremities lie under almost opposite  
A                      meridians



meridians. If therefore, we reduce these calculations to English measure, we may say, in general terms, that, upon a medium, it is about five thousand three hundred miles in length, and one thousand seven hundred miles in breadth, that it contains nine millions of square miles, and is, at least, thirteen thousand five hundred miles in circumference.

From its situation it derives three very eminent advantages: the first is, that it includes within its bounds a great variety of climates, with such a wonderful diversity of soils, that it is not only capable of subsisting without the assistance of any other country, but, if inhabited in any proportion to its extent, it might be supplied with almost every kind of commodity of its own growth and production, and, of consequence, be the richest as well as the most independent empire in the world.

The second advantage is, that notwithstanding its prodigious and extensive frontier, it is less exposed to conquest or invasion than most other nations on the continent: covered on the north and north-east by the impenetrable barrier of the frozen ocean and its undiscovered

covered coasts; on the east and south-east defended by forests and deserts, easily passable by traders, but inaccessible to armies; she equally defies the pusillanimous Chinese, and the more war-like Monguls; from the Turks and Tartars she has little to fear, and still less from the Pole, the Prussian or the Swede.

The third advantage is, the infinite number of her navigable rivers, so necessary to inland trade; and her happy position with respect to seas; having the Baltic and the White or North sea in Europe, the Caspian, the sea of Azoph, and the Black-sea in Asia, and of course an out-let into the Mediterranean; not to mention the sea of Kamchatka, from whence lies an open communication by shipping, not only to Japan, China and the East Indies, but also to America, and the great unknown southern continent.

These surprizing circumstances, have been so little attended to, that, at first sight, they may appear almost incredible; and one will be naturally induced to ask, why Russia, possessing such extraordinary advantages, has profited by them so little. But for this their astonishing negligence very good reasons will be given, and

the true causes assigned hereafter, when we come to treat of the form of government of this empire, and of the genius and character of its people.

The closer we examine the peculiar benefits arising from the situation of this country, the nearer shall we find this account conformable to truth, and that what has been said above, is by no means the effusion of fancy, but the result of conviction.

The best method to form a just idea of these things will be, (instead of inspecting any map, however just and accurate) to survey the figure of the Russian empire upon the globe of the earth; where all that has been affirmed will appear at the first view.

But many of these happy circumstances, whether arising from climate, soil, position or power, are, in a great measure, either lost or useless to the inhabitants of this country, in its present state; and seem to have made little, if any forcible impression upon their understandings.

To avoid being accused of speaking too largely here, I must observe that all the great discoveries and improvements, made  
in

in this empire, have been imagined and conducted by foreigners. The conquest and colonization of Siberia was performed by a Cossack. The opening a trade between Archangel and England, and by that means introducing Russia to the acquaintance of the civilized parts of Europe, was entirely the work of an Englishman. It was an Englishman, who, even so early as 1560, projected the carrying on a commerce with Persia across the Caspian : he not only projected it, but did actually put it in execution ; and from the accounts we have of his voyage to Ghilan, we plainly perceive what a flourishing trade might have been struck out with that country, if the Russians had been animated with the smallest spark of adventurous boldness, or commerical enterprize. Vide *Hackliut's voyage of Anthony Jenkinson*,

The creation of a new port at Onega, in the White sea, utterly unknown a few years ago, but now annually frequented by near 30,000 ton of shipping, is entirely owing to the genius and industry of Mr. Gomm, an English Merchant at St. Petersburg.

All their manufactures were, at first, established by foreigners, and many of them still continue under their direction : nay, their mines, a point of natural wealth, which seldom escapes the attention of the most barbarous nations, were never managed to any degree of advantage, till some Saxon workmen discovered their real riches: mines which, in other than Russian hands, might vie with the treasures of the wealthiest regions.

These hints are alone sufficient to prove, that nothing is asserted without good foundation, of the negligence of this people, and their inattention and past insensibility to the advantages, which nature has so prodigally bestowed on them.



## CHAP. II.

## POPULATION.

**R**USSIA, comparatively with the other nations of Europe, must be considered as a country actually new, or as an old nation lately revived; it cannot of consequence, be very populous.

Voltaire justly observes, that no other christian power has a greater number of subjects under its dominions; but he should have added, that, at least, one fourth of the subjects of Russia are not christians.

According to the most exact calculation, founded upon the books of the last revision of the poll-tax, the reports of the provincial governors, and the returns of the clergy, I should imagine the following account of the population of this empire to be much more accurate than any that has yet been given to us.

## STATE of the POPULATION.

	Males.	Females.
Nobility, including all those who by their rank in the service are reckoned noble }	250,000	250,000
Persons employed in the publick offices, who, tho' not noble, are yet exempted from the poll-tax, because in the service of the government }	13,775	14,776
Secular clergy, including their children	168,519	163,263
Regular clergy, nuns included	2,700	1,300
Burghers	189,235	206,163
Persons of different vocations, called <i>Rosnobinsei</i> , that come under no other particular denomination }	880,038	886,808
Free Peasants, called <i>Odnovortzei</i>	467,200	485,000
Peasants of the crown	1,000,000	1,000,000
Peasants of the household, or demeſne, of the ſtables and of the confiscated eſtates }	500,000	500,000
Peasants formerly belonging to the church, but now veſted in the crown }	1,000,000	1,000,000
Peasants of the nobility	3,400,000	3,400,000
Peasants belonging to manufacturers	38,000	38,000
Army, regular and irregular	387,054	} 350,000
Navy	31,000	
Inhabitants of the Ukraine	1,030,000	1,120,000
Inhabitants of Livonia, Eſthonia and Finland, commonly called the conquered Provinces }	300,000	300,000
Foreigners	60,000	30,000
Coffacks of different denominations	500,000	400,000
Tartars, Calmucks, and other wild nations, either really or nominally under the Ruſſian dominion, including the Laplanders, Samoides, Kamchatakans, &c. }	4,000,000	4,000,000
	14,226,321	14,145,310
Total Population of RUSSIA	— 28,371,631.	

Remarks



*Remarks on the preceding TABLE of Population.*

From this view of the population, we may observe, that the great strength of the empire lies in its own interior resources, in what may properly be called Russia, and the genuine sons of Russia, exclusive of the kindred nations, either conquered or dependent; tho' these latter have greatly contributed to her present power.

To form an exact idea of the nature of the inhabitants of this country, as distinguished in the preceding state of population, it will be necessary to give a particular description of each class of people, of the privileges and disadvantages annexed to it, and to shew in what manner this diversity of conditions composes the present constitution, and influences its operations.

And to begin with the first division, Nobility. Nobility, in Russia, is either derived from birth, or acquired by employment.

All

All persons, whose ancestors were noble, are themselves noble, except those whose blood has been attainted for crimes.

All nobles are equal, and have precedence only according to the rank of their employment in the state : thus, a common writer or common foldier, tho' of the basest extraction, if he rises either in the civil or military, takes place of every person whatsoever of an inferior character, tho' sprung from the first families of the empire : Mr. T-----, who is said to be a foundling, being now *actual counsellor of state*, goes before prince *Dolgoroukoy*, who is as yet only *counsellor of state*, tho' lineally descended from the Great Duke of Russia Volodimer himself.

The nobility, tho' equal in point of privileges, as mentioned above, may be classed under the four following denominations.

1. Knezes.
2. Counts.
3. Barons.
4. Gentlemen without titles.

A Knez, or Prince, as the Russians affect to translate it, is supposed to be descended

scended either ----1st, From (a) the ancient Great Dukes of Muscovy, or from ancestors who were formerly real (b) sovereigns of certain provinces, then independent, but now united to Russia.----2dly, From (c) Polish or (d) foreign princes settled in the empire.-----3dly, From (e) Tartar chiefs, or such Tartars of note, who, in the reign of Alexis Michaelowich, renounced the Mahometan faith, and submitted to be baptized in the Greek religion, on condition of being allowed to bear the title of Knez.----4thly, From (f) Russian subjects, born without titles, but created Knezes by the sovereign.

(g) Count and Baron (b) were terms absolutely unknown here, 'till the days of Peter the first, who, by an injudicious and almost indiscriminate affectation of every foreign custom, created several nobles with these titles; but he did not

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(a) Such as Dolgoroukoy, Repnin.

(b) Such as Vesemskoy, Shakofskoi.

(c) Such as Galitzin, Trubetskoi.

(d) Such as Cantemir, Cantacufene.

(e) Such as Jusupoff, Mecherfski.

(f) Volkonskoy, Menchikoff.

(g) Such as Cheremetoff, Buturlin.

(b) Stroganoff, Czerkasoff.

annex any particular privileges to them, a Count or Baron enjoying no precedence, but from his rank in the service.

These honors, unlike the dignities of certain countries, were rather rewards of uncommon merit, or marks of particular favor ; they still continue so, and therefore are very rare.

Some of the old nobility, who are without titles, seeing that *these* confer no real dignity or advantage, exclusive of service, affect to despise and to be above accepting them : and, indeed, except the counts Cheremetoff, Buterlin, and a few others, the rest of those who enjoy such titles, are mostly of new and obscure families ; as Rosamowski, Skavronski, Jagufinski, Stroganoff, Bruce, &c.

Gentlemen, without titles, tho' last mentioned, are many of them nothing inferior to the Knezes and Counts, either for antiquity of descent, or nobleness of blood.

These are descended,---1st, From the ancient (i) Boiars or gentlemen, who held

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(i) Such as Muskin-Puskin, Nariskin, Kitroff, Meloslafski. The family of Romanoff, which was raised to the throne in 1613. was of this kind of nobility, having no title.

their

their lands, under the crown, by a kind of feudal tenure ; and were obliged to serve the Czar in his wars at the head of their peasants.---2dly, (*k*) From foreigners settled in the empire.----Or (*l*) 3dly, From those who, tho' not born gentlemen, have raised themselves to that degree, by obtaining a rank in the service which confers it.

When a man has once obtained that rank, all his children, born afterwards, are noble ; but his children born before are not noble, unless the crown formally consents, which it seldom refuses on petition and proper application.

The filling an office in any, even the lowest department under the crown, does not in the least derogate from the nobility of the person who holds it : and every person retains, for life, the same rank which he enjoyed, when in actual service ; he sometimes even retires with a higher one.

The following Table will give an idea of military and civil ranks here, as they stand contrasted to each other.

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(*k*) Such as Pässeck, Wedel.

(*l*) Such as Teploff, Daragan.

Every

Every person who, by service, has acquired any rank as marked in these classes, tho' it be in the fourteenth, which is the lowest, becomes noble himself, and entails his nobility upon his descendants.

It is necessary to remark here, that in order to preserve a sort of superiority to the military, the youngest military officer has precedence of the oldest civil officer of the same class ; except in the two first classes, where the rank depends upon the date of the commission.

TABLE



TABLE of RANK.

Military.		Civil.
	First	C L A S S.
Field Marshall	}	Great Chancellor
General Admiral		
	Second	C L A S S.
Generals in chief	}	Actual Privy Counsellors.
Admirals		
	Third	C L A S S.
Lieutenant Generals	}	Privy Counsellors.
Vice Admirals		
	Fourth	C L A S S.
Major Generals	}	Actual Counsellors of State.
Rear Admirals		
	Fifth	C L A S S.
Brigadiers	}	Counsellors of State.
Commodores		
	Sixth	C L A S S.
Colonels	}	Counsellors.
Captains of the first		
Rate in the Navy		

And so on to the Rank of an Ensign and Register, which is in the 14th, or lowest Class.

There are particular employments which have a rank annexed to them : thus all the great officers of state are Generals in chief, the Chamberlains are Major Generals, and the Gentlemen of the Chamber are Brigadiers.



The Russian nobility, tho' now equal as nobles, were not always so, or at least, were not such in their own estimation; which occasioned many inconveniencies, especially, in time of war; as it often happened that a gentleman of a very ancient family, scrupled to obey another of a less ancient one, tho' appointed to a superior command, by the Czar himself.

To put an end to these disputes, Alexis Michaelowich commanded the nobility to deliver up to him all their patents, family, papers, and pedigrees; and as soon as this requisition was complied with, he ordered them to be publicly burnt before the gates of his palace: so that whatever antiquity some Russian houses may pretend to, it is merely traditional, as not one of them has a single writing to prove it from, higher than the reign of that prince.

The title of Boiar, which we find attributed, in the old accounts of Russia, to the principal officers and counsellors of the Czar's court, is now entirely disused.

By

By an edict of Peter the first, the Russian nobility were obliged, not only to enter into the service themselves, but to register all their male children at seven years old, and to send them, when arrived at the age of fourteen, to the proper office, to be reviewed and enrolled, either in the civil or military : and those parents who neglected this duty were liable to very severe penalties.

It was not easy to obtain a discharge, till after five and twenty years service, unless on account of sickness, incapacity or other good cause, and even then, the liberty of retiring depended solely on the pleasure of the sovereign.

At present, it would seem as if the nobility and their children were no longer bound by these rigorous ordinances, and that to enter into the service or to decline it, rested on their own inclination alone.

They now have the liberty whenever they think proper of travelling into foreign countries, upon taking out a pass-port in the common form ; a regulation to which every body is obliged to submit, as no person whatsoever can leave the empire without one.

The sovereign, however, sometimes refuses this permission; as in the case of the princess Dashkoff, in March 1765; but there were very good reasons for that refusal. It is indeed the only example I recollect during my residence.

Russian merchants or burghers have, of late years, not only travelled abroad themselves, but have sent their children into foreign countries; this liberty they seem rather to enjoy by tacit permission than positive right: for the merchants have never been emancipated, as the nobility was by the edict of Peter the third in 1762.

Those who are to serve in the military here, be they of what condition, quality, or fortune they may, must commence as private soldiers; they do not, however, remain long in that station, but are usually soon advanced to a higher rank, especially if they be of distinguished families.

The nobility and those persons who are in the service of the government, pay no taxes whatsoever.

The privilege of purchasing lands and peasants is now allowed to the nobility alone: formerly a manufacturer was permitted

mitted to buy slaves, but that right is now either taken away or suspended.

The clergy both secular and regular are, in general, either the sons of priests, or born of the meanest of the people. They are by no means so numerous as might be expected from the ignorance and prevailing superstition of this country, and tho' they pay no taxes to government, are very little burthensome to it; indeed, much less so than the same order of men, in any other state, where hierarchy is established in the smallest degree.

Clergy.

A burgher is either descended from a burgher, or is a peasant made free, who enters himself on the roll of traders, in some corporate town. All burghers are at liberty to buy and sell by wholesale in all parts of the empire: but (except at public fairs) they are not permitted to trade by retail, in any other town but that of which they are free.

Every burgher pays a certain annual sum to the guild of the town where he resides, towards defraying the charges and expences to which it is subject: such as the paving, cleaning and lighting the streets, furnishing commissaries and at-

tendants to a variety of public services, &c. &c. this sum is not fixed, but depends upon accidents and occurrences : thus, for example, the charges for the year 1767 will be very heavy upon the burghers of St. Peterbourg ; because, whenever the sovereign removes to Mosco, they are obliged to furnish the whole court with horses at a low rate ; for 130 English miles of the way.

A burgher may become a gentleman, that is to say, the crown may give him a brevet of rank, and yet continue a merchant. There are some examples in the present reign of burghers having the rank of field officers, and yet not retiring from trade ; but to them this rank is only personal, and does not make their children noble ; nay, it does not empower the person himself, to whom it is granted, to purchase lands or peasants.

It would seem, however, as if the empress was desirous of rendering the profession of a merchant more respectable in Russia, and 'tis probable it will soon be put upon a new footing ; that particular privileges will be granted to burghers, and that the taxes, which they now pay, will be levied in another manner, and  
under



under another name. At present they are in many respects upon the same level with the peasants, being subject to the poll-tax, and obliged to furnish recruits to the military service.

A foreigner may become a burgher, but, if he dies, or chuses to leave the country, one tenth of his fortune acquired, during his burghership, is forfeited to the town of which he was free.

The poll-tax of a burgher is 120 co-pecks *per annum*, being about five shillings English.

Persons of different vocations, called *Rosnochinschi*,<sup>Rosnochinschi.</sup> who come under no other particular denomination. These are neither burghers nor peasants, and tho' free, as having no masters, are not exempted from paying taxes, and are principally composed of the sons of soldiers and priests (themselves not being soldiers or belonging to the church) of enfranchised slaves, converted Tartars, &c. They all pay a certain capitation, which, at the general revision is settled according to their apparent ability.

The free peasants, called *Odnovortzei*,<sup>Odnovortzei.</sup> inhabit, chiefly, the provinces of Voronitz and Belgorod; and principally con-

list of the descendants of Emigrants from Poland and the Ukraine in ancient times: there are among them, however, several of the Russian nobility, who, averse to the military service as established by Peter the first, chose rather to enroll themselves in the class of Odnortvortzei, than to present themselves and their children to be registered at the herald's office according to the edict: they, therefore, retired into the above mentioned provinces of Voronitz and Bellgorod, and carried with them as many of their peasants as they could possibly transplant thither under such circumstances.

The term Odnortvortzei literally signifies possessors of one house, but there are several of them who have considerable estates; and it appeared at the last revision, that there were 13,000 peasants belonging to them who paid the poll-tax to the crown. They are permitted to possess in fee what lands and peasants they are now seized of, but are incapable of acquiring more, either by purchase or otherwise. They pay 170 copecks or 7s. 1d. poll-tax; and since the new regulations of the war-office, furnish recruits in the same manner as the other peasants.

Peasants



Peasants of the crown enjoy a larger <sup>Peasants</sup> portion of freedom, or rather, a lesser <sup>of the crown.</sup> share of slavery than any other peasants; for if they pay their taxes, and furnish their proper quota of recruits to the military, and of labour to the mines, they are bound to no further acts of vassalage, and are only cognizable by the chancery of their province.

The whole government of Archangel, and a great part of the kingdoms of Casan and Siberia, consist of this kind of peasants only, who are looked upon as unalienably annexed to the crown. They pay 170 copecks, or 7 s. 1 d. poll-tax.

Peasants of the household or demesne, <sup>Peasants of the household, &c.</sup> of the stables and confiscated estates, besides the poll-tax of 70 copecks, or 2 s. 11 d. pay a rent to the crown of 100 copecks, or 4 s. 2 d. or may be obliged to work or furnish provisions in lieu of their rent.

These are cognizable by their proper chanceries, and are alienable; being frequently granted away by the sovereign to those subjects whom she chuses to reward. The present Empress, indeed, has been much more sparing in this respect, than her predecessors.

Peasants  
of the  
church.

Peasants of the church, now transferred to the crown, formerly belonged to the monasteries and dignified clergy, but, by the late regulation, are vested in the crown, for the maintenance of the church, and other pious uses: they are much on the same footing as the crown peasants, and are cognizable by the college of œconomy, into whose treasury they pay 150 copecks, or 6s. 3d. besides their poll-tax of 70 copecks, or 2s. 11d.

Peasants  
of the no-  
bility.

Peasants belonging to the nobility, besides their poll-tax to the crown of 70 copecks, or 2s. 11d. are obliged to pay a certain rent to their lord, according to their circumstances and ability: this they do either in money, provisions, or labor, and sometimes in all three, being absolute slaves to the will of their masters, who has entire power over their persons in every respect, short of life: he can imprison, beat or plunder them, at his discretion; for according to the general acceptance, a peasant has nothing of his own.

Indeed, at St. Petersburg, the more civilized nobility content themselves with a stipulated rent from their tenants, and leave them to enjoy, in quiet, the fruits  
of

of their industry : however it sometimes happens that an indigent or rapacious gentleman will summon before him those of his peasants, whom he suspects to be rich, demand their little wealth, and if not immediately gratified, order the poor wretches to be whipt without mercy, 'till they are compelled to surrender all they possess in the world to their relentless master. -- The terror of being thus plundered, frequently induces the peasant to bury his money in the earth, by which means large sums are daily withdrawn from circulation. This circumstance seems in some measure to account for the visible scarcity of specie in this country, for tho' the general balance of trade is in favour of Russia, yet there appears to be much less gold and silver in currency, than one would be led to imagine from such an advantage.

Peasants belonging to the manufactu-  
 rers are employed in different arts or <sup>Peasants</sup>  
 trades, established in the empire : many of <sup>of the ma-</sup>  
 them become so ingenious, and so useful <sup>nufactu-</sup>  
 to their principals, as to receive wages, <sup>rers.</sup>  
 like free workmen, which, notwithstanding  
 are rather given from motives of ge-  
 nerosity and encouragement, than of ob-  
 ligation

ligation or necessity. These peasants are entirely slaves to their master, and are obliged to work gratis if insisted on, having no claim upon him, but for bare subsistence.

They were either assigned by the crown to the manufactories on their first establishment, or afterwards purchased by the proprietor, who cannot now resell them, unless at the same time he disposes of the manufactory from which they are unalienable, after having once belonged to it.

Their poll-tax is 70 copecks or 2 s. 11 d.

A peasant cannot trade as a burgher, but he may sell the produce of his own, or of his family's labor. He is not allowed by law to pass a bill of exchange, as he cannot be sued for payment. It is notwithstanding frequently practised, and being found in some degree necessary for carrying on trade, is connived at by the magistrate.

A peasant, with the consent of his lord, may purchase his freedom and become a burgher. By an edict of Peter the first, he had a right to his freedom on payment of 500 roubles, or 100l. but

but that law is now either repealed or become obsolete; few lords, however, would refuse a peasant his liberty, who could give him so high a price for it.

The common value of a peasant, in the sale of an estate, was seldom rated higher than 40 or 50 roubles, but, of late, the price is considerably risen: for by the increase of commerce, and the prodigious demands from abroad for the commodities of this country, the peasant grows every day more wealthy, and consequently more able to pay a considerable rent to his master. Formerly, the crown never refused to give a peasant his freedom upon the abovementioned terms of paying 500 roubles, but, latterly, has been much more reserved in that respect, as it is supposed that the tillage of the country would suffer considerably, by a great number of husbandmen becoming burghers.

The present Empress, who has the happiness of her subjects, of all ranks and denominations, very much at heart, seems extremely desirous of improving the condition of the peasants, as well as of the burghers.

She



She wishes to invest a real and indisputable property of some kind, either of lands or moveables, or both, in all sorts of persons whatsoever; and certainly nothing could more effectually contribute to the improvement of agriculture, or the advancement of commerce in this empire.

With this intention, she has offered great encouragement to all foreigners, who are willing to settle as colonists in her dominions; and a very considerable number are already arrived there, not less, I am assured, than 35,000 souls; to whom lands are to be assigned in some of the best provinces of the empire, and free possession allowed them for twenty years, subject to no rent or tax whatsoever, till the expiration of that term.

The following question, which has been proposed to the society of Free Enquiry here, is said to have been started by the Empress herself, who, by their channel, has offered a considerable prize for the best dissertation written upon this subject.

*“ Whetben*



*“ Whether it is most advantageous  
 “ and useful to the commonwealth that  
 “ peasants should have a real property in  
 “ lands, or only in moveable effects ; and  
 “ how far ought the right of the peasant  
 “ to extend over such property, so that the  
 “ greatest benefit may arise to the public ? ”*

The army and navy consist, (officers <sup>Army and navy.</sup> excepted) of Russians only, who, when once they are well disciplined make incomparable foldiers and failors. For patience, perseverance and obedience, they have no superiors in the world ; and yet, in general, the common Russians are by no means of a military cast ; on the contrary, they have the strongest averfion to the land and fea fervice, but efpecially to the latter ; both of which are entirely fupplied with preft men. --- A volunteer would be a prodigy.

Different from the practie of moft other nations, which in order to fpare their own fubjects, chufe to enlift as many foreigners as poffible in their armies, the Russians never admit any other than natives into their regular troops : even the provinces of Livonia and Efthonia do not furnifh

furnish a single recruit to the service; so that if an idle fellow, in either of these countries, finds in himself the strongest vocation to be a soldier, he cannot serve his sovereign in that capacity, but must offer himself to some neighbouring power. (*m*)

The most accomplished officers in the service are foreigners, that is to say, not Russians; for the conquered provinces have often furnished very able generals. In the fleet they have a few English officers, who are, almost the only persons, in the whole naval department, who are capable of service, or have ever seen any.

Of the  
Ukraine.

The Ukraine, or little Russia, is a province of the utmost importance to Russia, not only on account of the astonishing fertility of its soil, which is equally proper for tillage and pasture, but because it is the frontier and bulwark against the Turks.

The people are absolutely free, but many Russian nobles, who have lands in the Ukraine, have brought numbers of their

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( *m* ) Indeed he has not very far to go, as he may be sure of entering on immediate duty at Memel, where his Prussian majesty is said to have some of the ablest and most successful recruiting officers in Europe.  
peasants

peasants and settled them upon their estates there : these, however, do not acquire their freedom by residing in a free province.

Many Ukrainers become tenants to these gentlemen, but, if ill used, they have a right to abandon their farms and dwellings, and settle elsewhere ; a case which frequently happens, and occasions a prodigious loss to their landlords.

The children of an Ukrainian, by a Russian woman, follow the condition of their mother, so that if she be a slave, they are born slaves tho' the father was free.

The Ukraine, which was formerly considered in itself as a sort of military republic, dependant on Russia, was under the command of an officer called a Hetman ; he was always a native of it, and, tho' appointed by the court, was yet supposed to be elected by the free choice of his countrymen. Count Rosamowski, (brother of the person who was so long a favorite of the Empress Elizabeth) was chosen hetman in 1750 ; but the present Czarina has thought proper to abolish the office, and convert the Ukraine into a regular government, similar to that of the other provinces.

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The Ukraine furnishes and maintains a considerable body of troops, but pays no capitation, nor, indeed, any other taxes, except custom-house duties on the frontier : so that it is upon a much better and more honourable footing than any other province ; for, of all nations under the Russian dominion, Russia herself is the least happy and the least free.

**Cossacks.**

It may not be improper here to mention the Cossacks, who, tho' divided into several denominations, yet enjoy the same privileges as the Ukrainers. They are separated into different nations or tribes, which derive their names from the places of their residence ; some are called the Don Cossacks, others the Volga Cossacks, Choperki Cossacks, Yaik Cossacks, &c. There is also one horde of them, consisting of about 30000 fighting men, called the Cossacks of Zaporavia, who are so singular in their manners and legislation, that they claim a more particular description than the others.

They consist of persons of all nations, and live in a singular sort of society, to which no women are admitted ; they are a sort of male Amazons, who, at a particular season of the year, resort to certain islands

islands of the Nieper, in their neighbourhood, where they rendezvouse with the women dependent upon them : on these occasions the union of the sexes is by no means regulated by those laws which prevail in other societies ; for the nearest relations, such as a father and his daughter, a son and his mother, mutually mingle, without scruple, their incestuous cares and endearments. The children, born from these indiscriminate embraces, are left with their mothers till a certain age, at which the males are delivered to the fathers, and like their fathers become hunters and warriors, whilst the females remain with those of their own sex, and like them are reserved for the purposes of propagation.

All the Cossacks profess the Greek religion, and serve as irregulars in the Russian army.

Among the conquered provinces, Livonia and Esthonia still enjoy very considerable privileges ; their nobility derive even greater and more essential advantages under the present government, than what they were possessed of, whilst subject to Sweden.

Conquered Provinces.

C

The



The peasants are annexed to the land, and sold and transferred with it. Several Russian gentlemen have acquired estates in Livonia and Esthonia, and are entered on the matricula; in consequence of which, they have a right to a seat in the Diet, or assembly of the states of those provinces.

Russian Finland is a poor depopulated country, and at present, very little resembles the Swedish Finland, of which it was formerly a part. The avarice, ill policy and tyranny of some Russian noblemen who have estates there, have brought it to this wretched state.

According to the treaty of Newstadt, certain privileges were supposed to be secured to the Finland peasants, which distinguished them from the Russians: none of these privileges, however, are essential enough to be particularly taken notice of, as they only mitigate slavery, but do not confer freedom.

The inhabitants of the conquered provinces pay no poll-tax.

Foreign-  
ers.

Foreigners of almost every nation which we are acquainted with, are to be found in Russia, either as established or temporary residents. In the custom-house books of Peterbourg alone, we observe the names



names of merchants from every country in Europe ; English, French, Hollanders, Austrians, Prussians, Saxons, Hamburghers, Lubeckers, Danes, Swedes, Spaniards, Italians, Greeks, &c. &c. And, in the southern and south-eastern parts of the empire, we meet with all the varieties of the Asiatic nations ; whether Turks, Persians, Indians or Chinese ; together with every shade and tincture of complexion and feature which so singularly mark the different races of Calmucks and Tartars.

All these enjoy ample security for their persons and property. While resident in this empire, they are permitted the free exercise of their religion, whether christian, pagan, or mahometan, every sect of which is now tolerated. They are all capable of employment in the service, may be naturalized, and, if ennobled by rank or patent, may purchase lands or peasants, and enjoy the same privileges as a natural born Russian.

All foreigners, except Jews and Jesuits, are at liberty to settle in this country, and may trade by wholesale : but, unless naturalized, they are prohibited by the laws from selling in Russia, what they pur-

chase in Russia, and are therefore obliged to consume or export it.

The English are by much the most respectable for their opulence, their integrity, and their understanding: but of all foreigners the French are the most beloved, caressed and imitated by the Russians.

The English enjoy particular commercial privileges, and, in point of honor and justice, are entitled to still greater. For to the early and continued support of England, Russia principally owes its present existence as a maritime or commercial nation.

By an ancient law, Jews were not allowed to reside in Russia; but, I believe, they might at present establish themselves here without much difficulty.

Foreigners pay no taxes to the government.

Tartars.  
Calmucks,  
&c.

All the inhabitants of Siberia, Casan and the eastern provinces of Russia to the sea of Kamchatka, who are not Christians, are confounded under the general name of Tartars.

Many of these come to the capital in order to procure employment, either as workmen or domesticks, and are exceedingly sober, acute, dextrous and faithful.  
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It is, however, remarkable that those who turn Christians usually adopt all the vices, as well as the religion, of their new brethren; and become more drunken, idle and knavish, than even the Russians themselves.

The Calmucks consist of several hordes or nations, which extend from the province of Astracan to the lake of Baikal. They are said to be subjects of Russia, their different Khans acknowledging a sort of nominal vassalage to the Empress; but as they are entirely free, pay no taxes, and are governed by their own laws, I should rather call them her allies, and perhaps they are not less useful than any she has; for they cover and defend her frontier, upwards of 1500 English miles, from the incursions and insults of the Kubans, Karakalpaks, Uzbeks and other bordering nations, still more wild and barbarous than themselves.

Of all these different Asiatic people the Calmucks of the Volga seem to be the least disaffected to Russia; but the Tartars, and many tribes of the Cossacks, pay a very unwilling submission to the government; which is obliged to manage them with great art and address, some-

times using them with rigor, and sometimes with gentleness, when the one may be excused by danger, or the other authorized by security.

The Laplanders, Samojedes, and Kamchatkans, are in too rude and savage a state to merit a particular description, and only find a place here, because they are marked in the Table of Population. The crown, however, receives from them a considerable tribute in furs.

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### C H A P. III

#### *Of the Genius and Character of the RUSSIANS.*

**T**HUS far I have given a short description of all the different conditions of men, together with the incorporated or dependent nations, which compose the population of this vast empire. But, as I before observed, that the strength of Russia lies in Russia itself, that on itself it must depend for support in the day of trial, and that it must stand or fall by its own virtue; it may neither appear

pear incurious nor unnecessary to exhibit here the national character at full length.

I know how little attention is paid to such general portraits, and that we oftner see them overcharged with the drapery of a rhetorician, than marked by the free and natural outline of the historian and philosopher : yet I am conscious the following picture is not liable to such an imputation. It must be allowed, indeed, that in all countries we meet with extraordinary characters, which, by their virtues or depravity, by their talents or incapacity, make exceptions to every general rule : there are, notwithstanding, in most nations, as in most human faces, some particular marks, certain striking features which make deep and lasting impressions on our imagination, and strongly influence our judgment and opinion : and such particular marks and striking features there are surely to be found in this nation, notwithstanding all the pains that have been taken to bend or distort them to the likeness of others.

There is, however, so great a variety in the shades of character which mark the different ranks of people here, tho' the ground be nearly the same, that it will be



proper to distinguish the classes, and take a separate view of each.

The common people, tho' not laborious, are strong and hardy, patiently bearing the extremes of heat, cold, and hunger to an astonishing degree, yet in general they are lazy in body, indolent of mind, and sensual to excess, knowing no happiness beyond the gratifications of drunkenness and gluttony; they are hospitable, charitable, and good-natured; nay, what may seem incredible to a foreigner, they are humane, and can by no means, be justly accused of cruelty: the several late revolutions of government in this country are sufficient to plead against such a charge, where so little blood was shed, tho' the soldiery was let loose, while furious from provocation, and thirsty for revenge.

They possess a great deal of natural shrewdness and sagacity, have a strong turn for ridicule, and in their general transactions of business acquit themselves with uncommon cunning and address. The advantages, however, which might arise to the public from their understanding and penetration, are considerably lessened by their superstitious and obstinate attach-



attachment to ancient customs ; which strangles in its cradle almost every child of improvement or discovery : those few which have arrived to any degree of maturity in this country, owe their birth, or at least their education, to foreigners.

The Russians, however, when properly managed, when soothed by persuasion, allured by profit, or animated by example, become extremely docile, and learn all mechanic arts with surprizing facility. They generally pass for being knavish, yet surely, they possess a greater share of honesty than we have any right to expect ; for, considering the temptations they are exposed to, the abolition of capital punishment, and the little disgrace of successful villainy and corruption in the highest ranks of people, it is astonishing that any integrity at all should be found among the commonalty.

They are handsome in their persons, easy and unaffected in their behaviour ; and, tho' free and manly in their carriage, are obedient and submissive to their superiors, and of a civility and politeness to their equals, which is scarcely to be paralleled. In their houses, tho' they live with little order or cleanliness, yet they  
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are rather epicures in their table, neat in their persons, and decent in their dress.

Their habit is equally adapted to health and convenience, and extremely well suited to their usual occupations : the upper garment is a short wide coat without plaits, which wraps over, and is fastened round the waist with a sash ; in winter they wear, underneath it, a sort of waistcoat lined with sheepskin, which defends them from the rigor of the cold : their necks and upper part of the breast are usually bare, but their feet and legs are constantly well covered with warm boots : on their heads they wear a cap either of cloth or fur according to the season. All the lower sort, except livery servants, and those who belong to the military, wear their beards, and cherish them with religious attachment.

The common Russian, tho' not actively brave, is unaccountably indifferent to the love of life, or the terrors of death, and bears punishment and tortures with incredible fortitude : thus ignorance and insensibility often produce among them such examples of resignation and contempt of pain, as shame the legends of martyrs and the boast of heroes. They are

are not malicious or vindictive, their active passions being neither violent nor dangerous ; as their resentments are not gloomy nor lasting, so their friendship is not permanent or warm. Indeed, all the affections of the soul seem weaker in them than in most other nations ; they are, therefore, formed to be commanded, and perhaps the sovereign despotism which reigns here, owed its rise, in the beginning, to an attentive observation of this part of their character. They possess most of the military qualities, enterprize excepted, and in point of obedience, discipline and passive valor, make incomparable soldiers.

From this view of the common people, we may fairly conclude that the soil is naturally good, and capable of being turned to prodigious advantage ; that if judiciously managed, it would well reward the care of the owner ; and that if we find many good qualities misapplied or neglected, it is less owing to the perverseness of the people than to the indolence, mistakes or unskilfulness of their rulers.

Having said thus much of the common people or peasants, I come now to speak of the second Class, the burghers and traders,

traders, commonly called merchants ; tho' according to our acceptation of the word, there are very few, if any, who deserve the appellation. The eminent manufacturers, the rich wholesale dealers, neither of which are very numerous, the country chapman, shopkeepers and pedlars, compose this class. They are in general, a very orderly sort of people, equally decent in their houses, and in their appearance ; but comparatively much more awkward and embarrassed in their carriage, than the peasants : whether that, by oftner conversing with the great, they grow affected from imitation, or, by dealing with foreigners, they grow modest from conscious inferiority, I will not pretend to determine. It is said, that anciently as they were more simple in their manners, they were also more just in their dealings ; but now, tho' they avoid every open and flagrant act of knavery, yet they are by no means averse to the more secret and secure arts of dishonesty.

In the inner parts of the country, they are supposed to be more virtuous ; indeed, it is but fair to observe, that the most knavish, among the merchants,  
are

are those who have the most frequent transactions with foreigners: whether they are corrupted by ill example, excited by a spirit of rivalry and vanity, which induces them to prove their talents at the expence of their integrity, or that a lust of lucre prevails over every other consideration. They are, notwithstanding, supposed to be the most devout and religious class of people in the empire.

Their piety, however, as well as that of the peasants, is reducible to a very few rules of duty; the principal of which are, abstinence in lent, intoxication on holidays, and confession and sacrament at Easter. But there are two points of natural religion to which they adhere, and which seem very extraordinary in a people who appear so negligent of most others: the one is an extreme veneration, obedience and respect for their parents; few instances of undutifulness or ingratitude to them being to be found here: the other regards their scrupulosity in taking an oath; in general they have a great aversion to submit to such an obligation, and, in civil causes, it is common to see each party refer his adversary to be sworn rather than to be sworn himself.



self. I must observe, however, that this horror of perjury extends only to those cases, where a man swears against his better knowledge, and not at all to oaths of office which are hourly taken and violated without fear or hesitation.

Some few of the merchants affect to dress and live like their superiors; but far the greater part follow the rude and humble simplicity of their ancestors.

Before I conclude this article, I must remark one thing which is equally true and extraordinary; tho' the Russians are in general extremely eager in pursuit of gain, and uncommonly sharp in their dealings, yet they are either entirely inattentive to the true principles of commerce, or incapable of attaining them: for notwithstanding their constant intercourse with the chief trading nations of Europe during two hundred years past; notwithstanding they must see the able manner in which other merchants carry on their business, and the advantages resulting from it, yet among the Russian burghers few of them can write, and not one in a thousand has learned our common arithmetic. To this day, there is not a Russian compting-house established in any foreign



foreign country: they continue to sell their commodities to the factor, and not to the principal, few of them chusing to freight a ship upon their own account, having no idea of that extensive credit, which is the soul of commerce; being impatient of returns, and unwilling to trust to the faith of distant correspondents, whom they cannot believe more honest, or more punctual than themselves.

Thus, they leave the great advantages of their trade to the stranger; and whilst the products of Russia are transmitted to the most distant parts of the globe, the name of a Russian merchant is utterly unknown.

As to the clergy, their order has been brought very low, and their authority entirely annihilated. The common priests are usually of the meanest extraction and lowest education, and are treated accordingly: the monks alone and the dignified clergy, who are usually monks, possess the little theological literature that remains here; this extends only to a slight notion of ecclesiastical history, of ancient controversy, and of the lives and writings of the Greek fathers.

Tho'

Tho' it is no uncommon thing to see persons, even ladies, of the first rank, kiss the hand of a priest, it merely proceeds from superstitious custom, and not from any real deference or devotion : for of all clergy in the world, the clergy of Russia is the least feared, respected, esteemed, or beloved.

The common people, the merchants, and the clergy having now past in review, the nobility demand our next attention : we should naturally suppose this order to be superior to the others in sentiment, in knowledge and in behaviour ; and yet, either so depraved are their dispositions, or so perverted their judgments, that we may safely say, the nobility derive few advantages from birth or education, which claim the respect of others, or are of use to themselves : in their hearts, mean profligacy and vulgar weakness, too often triumph over genius and honor, without which, birth loses its dignity and fortune has no value.

Conscious and jealous of the superior civilization of foreign nations, sensible of, yet unwilling or unable to correct the errors of their own, they endeavour to conceal their disadvantages under the affectation

affectation of despising the stranger, and under the practice of mortifying him. But these are principally exerted against those whom they are jealous of, or those whom they envy for their eminence of talents and superiority of genius: for the humbler foreigner, who has pliancy or baseness enough to submit to their pride, to flatter their vanity, or minister to their pleasures, is certain of securing their favour, of acquiring a confidence and enjoying an influence, which wisdom or virtue could never have obtained. Of this we see innumerable instances in these crowds of French adventurers, who daily resort here, and are received into most families with open arms, as secretaries, librarians, readers, preceptors and parasites; tho' the greatest part of these gentry are equally impudent and illiterate, vagabonds from indigence, or fugitives for crimes,

The Russian gentlemen are certainly the least informed of all others in Europe; the chief point of their instruction is a knowledge of modern languages, particularly, the French and German; both which they usually speak with very great facility, tho' incapable of

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writing

writing either with precision or propriety. Those who can afford the expence, and indeed many who cannot afford it, complete their education by a tour to France ; where ignorant and unprincipled as they are, they catch at every thing that feeds the fancy or inflames the passions ; there they find ample fuel for both ; they greedily devour all that is set before them without selection, and lose their delicacy of taste in enormity of appetite : to Frenchmen they become despicable Russians, to Russians despicable Frenchmen, to others equal objects of pity and contempt. So seldom do they derive advantage from those circumstances which form and accomplish the gentleman of other countries, that instead of solid instruction or real improvement, they rarely acquire more than personal affectation and mental distortion, and after all their travels return home far inferior, in the virtues of a good citizen, to those who have never traveled at all.

Their natural parts are tolerably good, but they universally want the discriminating faculty ; whence they fall into the most absurd imitations of foreign life and manners, and abandoning the common  
sense

sense of nature, adopt fashions and customs totally contrary to their climate and troublesome to themselves. Tho' freezing under the 60th degree of northern latitude, they build their houses like the airy palaces of Florence and Sienna; in France it is the etiquette of fashion to begin the spring season at Easter, and to mark it by dress, the imitative Russian does the same, and flings off his winter garments whilst the earth is covered with snow, and himself shivering with cold. It is the peculiar privilege of the noblesse at Paris to have Swiss porters at the gates of their hotels. At Petersburg a Russian gentleman of any fashion must have a Swiss also, or some tall fellow with a laced belt and hanger, which it seems are the indispensable accoutrements of a Parisian janitor. It would be an endless task to recite the follies and absurdities of this kind, which they every day fall into, but these few examples, will I presume, appear sufficient.

This ridiculous imitation of foreign, and particularly of French manners, is attended with the most serious consequences, and with innumerable ill effects: it not only divests them of all national



character, but prevents them from aspiring to the praise of all national virtue; it represses their native energy of mind and extinguishes every spark of original genius. Nothing was ever more just than Rousseau's censure of Peter the first's conduct; that monarch, instead of improving his subjects as Russians, endeavoured totally to change and convert them into Germans and Frenchmen; but his attempts were unsuccessful; he could not make them what he wished to make them, he spoiled them in the experiment, and left them worse than they were before. His successors have continued the same process, but their projects have been equally ineffectual to the people, and unprofitable to the state.

The Russian nobility from this error of their late princes, have contracted that unfortunate bias which will not suffer their nature to shoot upright: warped by imitation of alien manners without selection, they too often appear vain, petulant, light, inconsequent, indiscreet, envious and suspicious, faithless in their engagements, traitors to one another, incapable of true friendship, and insensible to all  
the



the nobler movements of the soul: luxurious and effeminate, listless and indispensed. Tho' in a northern climate they have an Asiatic aversion to all corporal activity and manly exercise, and scarce form an idea of either, beyond the smooth velocity of a sledge, or the measured paces of a managed horse; they have no passion for the sports of the field: hunting, shooting and fishing, as practised with us, they are utterly strangers to. Avoiding every recreation attended with exertion and fatigue: they prefer the more indolent amusements of chess, cards or billards, in all which they are usually extraordinary proficient: few of them employ their leisure in polishing their minds: insensible to the charms of conversation and the refinements of literature, they loiter and sleep away life and wake but to the calls of sensuality and the grosser pleasures.

Those who serve in the army or in the navy seldom arrive at any extraordinary excellence in either profession, and seem in general as unambitious as undeserving of military fame. They are looked upon as very moderate proficient by all foreign officers; and if sometimes they seem to

perform their duty with the spirit of a foldier, they are rather actuated by the principle of mere obedience and the dread of punifhment, than infpired by the nobler motives and generous impulfe of magnanimity and true valour.

The nobility, in common with the inferior claffes, are remarkable for filial piety; but this their fo much boasted duty to parents feems to proceed more from principles of dependence and flavery, than from unmixed affection or well founded gratitude; for every father, in the little fphere of his family, is as defpotic as the fovereign, in his larger dominion. But this virtue, whether real or pretended, is the principal one which they praftife; they have not, nor do they affect to have, that abhorrence of vice and difhonefty, which prevails among other nations: infomuch, that many perfons retain their employments, nay, judicial employments, tho' notorious for the moft infamous frauds and cruel extortions; for, excepting a few and thofe in the higheft offices, the reft of the nation, tho' in the morn of greatnefs have all the corruptions incident to a declining ftate, inftead of the fterner virtues which raife an empire to meridian glory.

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The abject court and adulation, which they pay to minions, ministers and men in power, are intolerably offensive to every mind, that feels for freedom and independence: to an Englishman they are particularly disgusting: chiefly attentive to their own fortunes, and the immediate gratification of personal vanity, the Russian nobility are regardless of publick virtue, and improvident of posterity; preferring the smile of a courtier, or the hollow patronage of a favourite to the rational pleasures of equal society, and to the happiness of conscious virtue. Their fondness for external honors makes a striking part of their character; there are few of them who would not sacrifice the most solid advantage to the superficial decorations of a ribband or a title; so much attached and accustomed are they to these ornaments, that a foreigner, however great his merit, is but little respected, who does not wear such marks of distinction.

From hence a rigid observer might be led to pronounce them a nation of inconsistency, contradiction and paradox, uniting in themselves the most opposite extremes; hating the stranger, they copy  
him

him ; affecting originality, they are the slaves of imitation ; magnificent and slovenly ; irreligious, yet superstitious ; at once proud and abject, rapacious and prodigal, equally incapable of being reformed by lenity, or corrected by punishment. The severity of the Empress Anne's reign wrought but little change in their character ; nor has the gentleness of subsequent administrations produced any considerable alteration. Perhaps a mistake in the means rendered their labors ineffectual, but certainly the perfect civilization of this class, would be a more difficult task than that of the peasants ; for being advanced thus far, the obstinacy and conceit, that usually attend half knowledge, may prevent them from advancing farther. And yet when we reflect on the barbarism of our own and of other countries a few centuries past, we may be induced to form more favourable conjectures of a nation who are far from being destitute of radical virtues. A docile and humane peasantry, such as I have already described them may under better laws be molded into a better people. Farther instructions may wear out their inveterate superstition. A nobility

bility not deficient in natural abilities, must at length feel their errors and misconduct, and acquire that good sense, which will point out the means of amendment. --- Their present absurd, ridiculous, motley manners are such as must ever arise where foppery is ingrafted on ignorance, and ignorance grows presumptuous from sudden elevation. Another generation may melt these extremes into a more consistent mass. The Russians may one day become what we now are, and notwithstanding our present boasted superiority, we may possibly relapse into that barbarism from which they are endeavouring to emerge.

Having said thus much, it would be unpardonable to conclude this article, without saying a few words of the female character, in a nation which owes a large share of its glory to female reigns.

The women of the lower sort still retain all that primæval barbarism of submission to their husbands, which has been so particularly remarked by all the ancient observers and travellers. The wives of the burghers or merchants are said, in general, to possess most of those virtues or qualities which constitute *la bonne femme du vulgaire*.

Among

Among many in high life, the most profligate manners and unbounded libertinism prevail. Female chastity indeed seldom long flourishes in a gay court, nor is it any where much respected, unless accompanied with other virtues. Female manners in every country must receive a strong tincture from those of the men, and where the one is faulty, the other can't remain unimpeached. In Russia, as the instruction of the latter is usually committed to French adventurers, so the education of the former, is assigned to French governesses, whose incapacity is the least of their defects, and whose former situations render them but ill qualified for so important a trust. Hence it is that in taste, elegance and accomplishment, the Russian ladies are inferior to the fair sex of the neighboring nations. Neglected, or corrupted in education, and destitute of resources in themselves, they naturally fly to every object that can dissipate or entertain them. Uninspired by sentiment, inconstant in engagement, they are often capricious, nay illiberal in their choice: late examples of such indelicacy are not wanting, where the tenderest attachments have given way to the lowest amours.

They



They are vain, light, and many of them interested, eagerly following every shadow of new and untried amusement, bold and adventurous in the pursuits of pleasure, equally regardless of danger and dishonor, unabashed by detection, and callous to reproach.

We are not, however, to consider all the court ladies, as involved in this harsh description.

Among them, I could mention some of the brightest ornaments of their sex, and have only to lament, that the number is comparatively so few, as to stand but an exception to the general character.

To delineate the character of a nation with judgment and fidelity, requires more qualities than men commonly inherit from nature, or can acquire by study.

Impartiality is a first principle and where that is wanting, learning serves but to mislead and ingenuity to betray.

To be free from prejudice is seldom the lot of humanity, and if ever we attain to such perfection, it is usually when we are too far advanced in life to exert it with vigour, or insure its success.

Our

Our early impreſt ideas naturally become a ſtandard for meaſuring other nations by; all that comes up to it we inſenſibly ſtamp a merit upon, and under-value without ſcruple whatſoever falls below it.---Even in maturer age we are too apt, like children to admire or diſlike thoſe things which ſtrike us as unuſual, and rather acquieſce in opinions that grow from indolence and habit, than ſubmit to the taſk of enquiry, or the toil of reſearch.---

If under circumſtances like theſe we attempt a ſubject of this nature, we at beſt can only acquire the praiſe of genius without diſcernment, and of ability uninformed. We are defeated by our own confidence, and are beaten from the field, where victory would have attended a knowledge of the ground.

When a young writer is induſtrious, he is apt to grow enamoured of imaginary diſcoveries, and cheriſhes an opinion like a miſtreſs he has won: thus diligence may give birth to fond preſumption, and obſtinacy become the reſult of his labor.--The paſſions too at that age are ſtrong and lively, and if we appear to diſclaim  
their

their influence, the reader feels the recital unpleasing, altho' he allows it to be just.

In maturer years we view mankind with severer eyes, and our tempers grow sour from disappointment, tho' our judgment is improved by experience. Thus we lose on one hand, what we gain on the other, and gradually decline into moroseness, whilst we are advancing to wisdom.

Hence in describing the manners of a foreign people, we must proceed with delicacy, and avoid extremes. Perplexity occurs in every step, endeavoring to elude danger, we fall into error; aiming at eloquence, we lose precision; and disgusted by vulgar opinions, are seduced by ingenious hypotheses: even candor is not sufficient here, vigilance must guard, and prudence direct us, to the end of our career.

After mentioning the difficulties attending a task of this kind: for me to have undertaken it may perhaps seem to demand an excuse; but apologies are commonly awkward, and here would be unavailing: if I have departed from truth, have misrepresented or disguised her, there can be no vindication; but if  
I have

I have endeavoured to make her better known, and have displayed her without adulation or malignity, I am secure of indulgence, tho' I may not aspire to applause.

Having thus shewn, that strong marks of primæval rudeness still remain in every class of this people, it may be expected, that I should endeavor to trace the cause, and discover the source of their long continued imperfection.

Many ingenious men have amused themselves in devising hypotheses, and forming conjectures, why the Russians should have so long continued in barbarism; why, tho' emerging from it for a century past, they still continue the least virtuous, and least ingenious nation in Europe. Some have ascribed it to the climate, whilst many think it owing to the manner of education, and others attribute it to the form of government.

The first of these causes seems to be of less force than the others; for the Swede who lives under the same parallel, certainly bears no resemblance to the Russian. But laying aside the physical cause, let us examine for a moment the moral ones, which seem to have more weight: we have

have seen that the people continue barbarous, the clergy ignorant, and that the nobleman is but half civilized ; that the two first can scarcely be said to have any education at all, whilst the latter had better have none than that which he has ; as it is neither calculated to make him useful to society, nor happy and virtuous in himself.

We shall prove, in the following pages, that the government has always been despotic, is still despotic, and likely long to continue so : if then, the form of government can be supposed to influence, or rather create the mental qualities and temper of the people, the Russians must remain unaltered, as long as the form of government continues the same.

Despotism can never long flourish, except in a barbarous nation, but to despotism Russia owes her greatness and dominion ; so that if ever the monarchy becomes more limited, she will lose her power and strength, in proportion as she advances in moral virtue and civil improvement.

It will therefore, always be the interest, as it has ever been the practice, of the sovereign to hold the scale of civilization in his own hand, to check every improvement



provement where it might clash with his authority, and encourage it only when subservient to his grandeur and glory:

I am sensible that the various projects of the present Empress may seem to contradict what I have said above ; but the fact is, that most of her projects are impracticable ; and therefore my assertion loses nothing of its weight. Besides, should the least inconvenience arise from the execution of them, the Empress, than whom no sovereign was ever more jealous or tenacious of *her* authority, can suppress them with a nod, or overthrow them with a breath.

Tho' the form of government certainly is, and will always be, the principal cause of the want of virtue and genius in this country, as making the motives of one, and the rewards of both, depend upon accident and caprice : yet, there are many others, the examination of which might prove a source of very ingenious investigation to the curious enquirer. I must, however, confess that my own consideration of these points has never been attended with any great degree of demonstration, or conviction to myself. In moral and political, as well as in metaphysical



physical and theological researches, there is nearly the same incertitude; and tho' we may amuse ourselves with the speculation of second causes, we must still remain ignorant of the first: we are bewildered in our pursuit, and at the moment we think the chase within our reach, it mocks our eagerness and vanishes from our view.

I shall therefore, rather turn my attention to the general history of this empire, which has less perplexity, and particularly remark the great events and revolutions, which, either in themselves or in their consequences, have produced even the small degree of civilization, to which Russia is arrived at the present period.

#### C H A P. IV.

##### *View of the RUSSIAN History.*

THE ancient history of Russia, like that of all other nations is involved in darkness and uncertainty, and is only known from the mention made of it by its civilized neighbors.

E

We

We learn from the *Byzantine History*, that in the year 987, Volodimer, sovereign of Muscovy, espoused the princess Anna, sister to the Greek emperor Basilus Porphyogenitus; that he himself embraced the religion of his consort, and established christianity by edict thro' all his dominions. What is very remarkable, his subjects conformed to it, without the least murmur or opposition; which proves that they were at that time either sunk into the grossest stupidity, or the most abject slavery: for there is not to be found, in all history, a parallel instance, where a new mode of belief, however excellent and eligible, was so quietly and so universally imposed upon a whole nation.

This introduction of christianity marks the first epocha of humanizing the Russians; who probably, at that period differed little from the Samojedes and Laplanders of the present time.

Volodimer divided his dominions among his sons, who subdivided them amongst theirs. Russia being thus broken into a number of little principalities, independent of, and in enmity with each other, easily fell a prey to the power of the Tartars;

tars; who, tho' they permitted it to be still governed by its own princes, imposed the most rigorous conditions on them, and exacted the performance with unrelenting tyranny, during the space of two hundred years.

At length, about the middle of the fifteenth century, there arose a prince of invincible courage, and of uncommon talents for his age and country, John Basilowich the first; who, by various arts and accidents, reunited in his person the whole monarchy of his great ancestor, Volodimer. He married Sophia the daughter of Thomas Paleologus, prince of Achaia. This alliance proved one of the sources of the greatness of Basilowich, and of the deliverance of Russia; for Sophia, who was a woman of a spirit congenial to her husband's, indignant of the Tartar yoke, soon conceived the means of shaking it off, and immediately put them in execution: she invited to her court many excellent Greek officers and expert engineers, who instructed her subjects in the use of artillery, then little known to the Muscovites, but totally unknown to the Tartars.

Basilowich, now sensible of these advantages, fired with the love of glory, and thirsting for revenge, not only renounced all vassalage to the Tartars, but from being a tributary became a conqueror; and with astonishing rapidity overran the dominions of his former masters; dethroned the Czar of Casan, and added that kingdom to his own. He then turned his arms against the Poles, over whom he gained many victories, and concluded all his great exploits, by the important conquest of Novogorod, which opulent and flourishing republic he incorporated with the rest of his dominions.

This period forms a second epocha of civilization. The princess Sophia revived the improvements, which were introduced in the time of Volodimer, and had lain buried during the tyranny of the Tartars: she was a woman of great talents herself; and knowing how to value and encourage those of others, she invited to her court numbers of foreign artists and learned men, for the instruction of her subjects, for the softening of their manners, and enlightening their minds. It is remarkable, that at this very period, whilst the Greek empire was torn up from its foundations,

dations, the Russian monarchy struck deep the roots of her subsequent greatness and dominion.

Basil Iwanowich, who mounted the throne in 1505, not only made no new conquests himself, but lost a great part of those, which had been acquired by his father. After an inglorious and stormy reign of thirty years, he died in 1535, leaving an infant son to inherit his desolated empire.

This infant proved to be a great man, and by his wisdom, resolution and activity, repaired the faults of his father, and even surpassed the glory of his grandfather. Under this monarch, the possession of Casan was fully secured, and the kingdoms of Siberia and Astracan were conquered, and united to Russia.

From this reign we may date another æra of civilization. In 1559, the discovery of Archangel was made by the English, which opened a new door to knowledge and improvement. The Czar, John Basilowich the second, seems to have had very just and extensive notions of trade in general, and of the advantages that must in particular result to his own barbarous empire, from the proper encourage-



agement of it; he therefore invited the English merchants to settle in his dominions, granted them considerable privileges, and loaded them with honors and careffes. Whilst I observe that this conduct of his was entirely contrary to the advice and opinion of his boiars and counsellors, I cannot avoid also remarking, that in this country *at least*, the sovereigns have frequently been much wiser than any of their subjects.

John Basilowich, tho' himself a barbarian, was so sensible of his country's barbarism, that he dispatch'd an extraordinary embassy to the emperor Charles the fifth, the principal intention of which was to request him to send to Russia not only artists and artizans to improve and polish his people, but also wise and experienced statesmen for the instruction of himself: he made the same application to queen Elizabeth, nay, went still farther, for despairing to find a proper wife in his own country, he earnestly intreated that princess to send him a consort from England.

He was succeeded, in 1584, by his son Theodore Iwanowich, who dying without issue, the race of Volodimer became extinct  
in

in the male line. This period of the Muscovite history is a tissue of the most abominable crimes, of the cruellest rapines, and most horrid massacres, committed or authorized by the pretenders and usurpers of the throne of the Czars. Boris Gudanoff, his son Theodore, the false Demetriuses, Basil Chiouski and Uladislas of Poland, were all sovereigns of Russia, either together or by turns, within the space of fourteen years. At length, the other competitors being destroyed, Uladislas remained alone. But the Russians, disdaining the government of a foreign prince, renounced all allegiance to him, expelled the Poles, and proceeded to the election of a new Czar.

They chose Michael Theodorowich, of the house of Romanoff, and descended by the females from the race of Volodimer. He was a prince of great wisdom and moderation, and after a prosperous and happy reign, of upwards of 30 years, died in 1646, and was succeeded by his only son Alexis Michaelowich.

This monarch was not inferior in talents and capacity to any of his predecessors. He added the fine provinces of Plefcow and Smolensko to his dominions,

and secured to Russia the dependence of the Ukraine, which important country had, till his time, been subject to Poland. He reformed the laws of his empire, which he modelled into a regular code ; and had sense and spirit enough to repress the ambition of the patriarch, and to oppose the usurpations of the church.

The establishment of the principal manufactures was begun during his reign; and the first idea of regular military discipline was given to the Russians, by the generals Gordon, Leslie and Dalziel. Equally attentive to arts and arms, Alexis encouraged learning and commerce, at the same time that he was engaged in war, and extending his territories: he saw that trade was the true fountain of riches and dominion, and already cherished the ambition of being a maritime power, and of forming fleets on the Black sea, and on the Caspian. He was undoubtedly a great and magnanimous prince, and laid the foundation of that immense influence and power on which Peter afterwards built his glory.

Alexis

Alexis died in 1676, and was succeeded by his son Theodore, by whose death without issue, in 1682, his brothers John and Peter, became joint sovereigns.

John, being a prince equally infirm in body and mind, had no other share in the government than the insertion of his name in all acts of state; and, dying in 1696, left Peter sole Czar and monarch of the Muscovite empire.

This reign forms the grand æra of that reformation; which, tho' much more extensive than the preceding, is falsely believed to have totally changed and civilized the whole Russian nation.

Peter, tho' endowed with strong natural abilities, and with wonderful talents, yet, like most Russians I have met with, he possessed not the discriminating faculty, that divine sagacity which explores the diamond in the mine, seizes its value, and at once decides amidst various degrees of excellence, which is most excellent.

To the want of this power, are to be attributed all the imperfections which his plans were attended with: for, in the ardour of alteration and improvement, he indiscriminately adopted a thousand foreign customs and institutions, without  
regarding

regarding time, place, propriety, or circumstance: instead of forming his people upon originality, he molded them into imitators, and injudiciously deprived them of their ancient character, without ascertaining the practicability of giving them a better.

He was, notwithstanding, a very great man; to him Russia owes the acquisition of Ingria, Livonia, Esthonia and Finland; to him she owes the creation of her marine, and, finally, to him she owes that military strength and political influence, which renders her, at this day, the predominating power of the north; which enables her to give law to many of her neighbours, and to command the attention and respect of the most distant powers.

After his death, which happened in 1725, the momentum, which he had given to the machine of government, still impelled it onward, with considerable force, during the reigns of his successors, the Empress Catherine, his widow, and Peter the second, his grandson; the former of whom died in 1727 and the latter in 1730.

According



According to the order of succession established by Peter the great, the crown should have descended to the duke of Holstein Gottorp, son of his eldest daughter Anna Petrowna; which prince we have since seen upon the Russian throne: but, as *he* was, at that time, an infant, and as great disadvantages, if not dangers were to be apprehended from a minority, it was determined by the principal noblemen and persons in authority to call to the succession the princess Anna Iwanowna, dutchess dowager of Courland, daughter of John Alexiowich, elder brother to Peter the great. This they did under the pretence of a nuncupative will, said to be made by the Czar; who, as was asserted, had passed over his nephew of Holstein, on account of his youth, and his sister Elizabeth, on account of her levity and love of pleasure, and had constituted his cousin, the abovementioned Anna Iwanowna, his successor to the empire.

This princess, who had an elder sister, the dutchess of Mecklenbourg, then living, not to mention the title of others, was out of all the rules of inheritance; but having a manly spirit and a strong discern-

discernment, immediately accepted the pretended will of Peter the second. Those who called her to the succession had limited her power, yet she signed without scruple all the conditions prescribed, and mounted the throne of the Czars without opposition.

She found her empire without treasure or ability, the grandeur of Russia impaired, the splendor of her crown already sullied, and her own prerogative degraded and confined: but she soon vindicated the imperial authority, she filled the great offices with accomplished statesmen, and placed experienced generals at the head of her armies. It is true these statesmen and generals were chiefly foreigners; but, under her auspices, they served Russia with the affection of natives, with undoubted fidelity, and the most signal success.

This great princess was the arbiter of the north, and by her victories towards the south, shook the foundations of the Ottoman empire; she rendered Courland and Poland totally dependent upon Russia; the one for its dukes, and the other for its kings: she greatly augmented the commerce of her subjects, by a judicious treaty

treaty with Great Britain; and having reigned ten years, with unrivalled reputation, having re-established the peace of her empire, and settled the succession in her own branch, she died in the fulness of her glory, leaving ten millions of roubles in her coffers, being the greatest treasure that had ever been possessed at any one time by any of her predecessors.

She has been accused of severity, if not of cruelty; but, surely, without good foundation, for necessity and the love of justice fully authorized all those measures of her reign, which have been represented as rigorous and sanguinary: she had a perfect knowledge of the nature and temper of her subjects, and she governed them according to that knowledge: she had weakness but for one man, and him we may pronounce a truly great man.

Biren and Osterman were her ministers, Munnich, Keith and Lacey were her generals. --- What an elogium!

It is unnecessary for me to enlarge upon the more modern part of the Russian history: I shall only observe, that the Empress Anne's eldest sister Catherine  
Iwanowna,

Iwanowna, wife of Charles duke of Mecklenbourg, died in 1733, and left one daughter, who in 1739 marrying Anthony Ulrick, prince of Brunswick Bevern, had by him a son, John, born the twelfth day of August, 1740; which son the Empress Anne appointed her successor, flattering herself with hopes of securing the empire to her own branch by this settlement.

The convulsions in the government which happened soon after her death, are well known, and every one is informed of the disgrace of Biren, and his banishment into Siberia, of the manner in which the Emperor's mother assumed the reins of the regency, and finally, how the infant Emperor himself was dethroned, and sent with his whole family into a cruel exile.

This great revolution happened in the night of the fifth of December 1741, and on the sixth, Elizabeth Petrowna mounted the throne of her father. This princess reigned upwards of twenty years, and enjoyed during her life-time a much higher reputation than she merited. Equally ignorant of the principles of government, and of the character of her subjects,

subjects, capricious and unjust, she abolished capital punishment and yet retained the use of the torture. *Her tender mercies were cruel.*

Tho' she affected the praise of humanity, and was even so vain as to order Elizabeth *The Clement* to be inscribed on her medals ; she, by no means, merited that illustrious title : for under her reign, and by her order, the most barbarous and wanton scene of cruelty was acted, that ever disgraced the annals of any nation, and which sufficiently disproves the pretended civilization of this. Two ladies of the highest rank, eminent for their wit and extraordinary beauty, guilty of no real crime, (whatever was pretended,--) were exposed almost naked to the public view on a scaffold, suffered the most inhuman infliction of the knout, and had their tongues cut out with every circumstance of the most outrageous brutality. This horrid tragedy was performed at St. Petersbourg on the ----- day of----- 1743, by the command of Elizabeth *The Clement*.

This princess had all the extremes of female pride and weakness ; she was vain of her own charms beyond all credibility,  
and



and so jealous of those of others, that at her court, beauty was an unpardonable crime. Abandoning herself to every excess of intemperance and lubricity, she was inflexibly severe to those, who imitating her example, permitted themselves the same indulgences; prodigal, pusillanimous, vindictive and inconstant. Such is the real character of Elizabeth, which has been so much mistaken, and misrepresented by many, who have not had opportunities of being truly informed. It is not to gratify malignity, or from an affectation of singularity, but merely from a love of justice, that I have painted this princess in these colours; I would not wantonly tear the chaplet from her brows; but the incitements to virtue are destroyed when we adorn vice and folly with the wreaths of honor.

Under the government of Elizabeth, Russia, not only still maintained, but considerably augmented her power and importance. It is very remarkable, that the most glorious period of her reign was neither distinguished by military talents, nor civil abilities; that alliances were made without ministers, and victories gained without generals; those, who  
know

know the chancellor Woronzoff, and the marshals Butturlin and Soltikoff, must allow this to be no exaggeration.

Elizabeth dying on Christmas day 1761, Peter the third, duke of Holstein Gottorp, and son of her elder sister, succeeded to the crown. His education had been shamefully neglected in his youth; no care had been taken to teach or improve him either by precept or example; they gave him flatterers for friends, and buffoons for companions: in childhood they treated him as a man, in manhood they amused him like a child. Thus, tho' born to empire, he was never formed to it, and the defects of nature were suffered to remain in him uncorrected by education or instruction.

I shall pass over the short reign of this unfortunate prince, whose intentions were excellent, tho' his understanding was weak; whose condescension and generosity to his subjects deserved mercy, if not gratitude; and whose cruel catastrophe clouds the splendor of the present reign.

Catherine the second, was proclaimed Empress on the twenty eighth of June 1762. As I shall speak more particularly of her in another place, I shall content

F

myself

myself with observing here, that, in genius, knowledge, and application, she is greatly superior to any of her subjects. By her wisdom and courage, she has raised Russia to the highest pitch of glory and power ; she has reinstated Biren in the dutchy of Courland, and given a king to Poland ; she has annihilated the French ascendancy at the courts of Copenhagen and Stockholm, and now principally influences, if she does not absolutely direct, all their political operations.

At the same time that she extends her predominancy to foreign nations, she is particularly attentive to domestic policy and improvement. Like Peter the great, she laments the barbarism of her subjects, and wishes to reform them ; but whether the plans which she has adopted are well calculated for that purpose, and whether they will be attended with the expected success, must be left for time to determine : I cannot, however, avoid imagining, from the knowledge I have of her instruments, that many of her projects will either be very ill executed, or never executed at all ; others are impracticable, or if practicable at any time, are certainly not so at this.

Thus

Thus I have taken a short and cursory view of the history of this great empire, in which we have seen the slow progress of civilization; and that tho' it was always advancing in some degree, ever since the time of John Basilowich the first, yet it did not take any very considerable strides, till the reigns of Alexis and Peter, under whose government manufactures were first established, and regular military discipline introduced; but even the improvements of these reigns and also of the subsequent, were chiefly directed to conquest and dominion: in such points, indeed, they very fully succeeded, but they neither awakened the genius, nor exalted the soul. The want of those effects sufficiently prove our former proposition, that the despotism of the government was, and still is the capital obstacle. Most of the sovereigns of Russia have been great men, such also might probably have been many of their subjects, had they dared to give play to their powers, or had they felt themselves in those situations which call forth the display of talents and virtue: situations which rarely exist in absolute, but are every day exerted in limited monarchies.

I cannot conclude this chapter without taking notice, that, since the pretended civilization of this country, there have happened three such revolutions as the ancient history of the Roman Emperors, or the modern of the Ottoman Sultans, can only parallel.

In many points, indeed, there is a strong resemblance between the Muscovites, and the Orientals: the history of favourites and ministers in Russia, is the history of bashaws and grand visirs in Turkey. Menchikoff was disgraced and banished by Dolgorouki, Dolgorouki by Biren, Biren by Munnich, Munnich by Lestock, and Lestock by Bestoucheff, who in his turn was exiled also. Of all these unfortunate statesmen there were but four remaining alive at the accession of Peter the third; Bestoucheff was the only one who found no favour from him, and indeed he had not merited any; but the others Biren, Munnich and Lestock were recalled and received with distinction. Peter the third, whose levity was equal to his good-nature, invited them to the imperial table and reconciled them to each other: 'tis said by those who were present, that the interview of these three



three extraordinary personages was uncommonly entertaining, and that their embarrassment, concern, excuses, professions and embraces, were comic to the highest degree.

For the more clearly understanding the history of Russia, I have here given a genealogical table of the house of Romanoff and its descendants.

MICHAEL ROMANOFF,  
Czar. 1613, died 1645.

ALEXIS, Czar 1645,  
died 1676.

THEODORE, Czar 1675, JOHN, joint Czar with  
died without issue 1682. PETER 1682, died 1695.

2d,

ANNA, married to the  
Duke of Courland, Em-  
perors in 1730, died  
without issue 1740.

1st,

CATHERINE, married to Charles  
Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin,  
died 1733.

ANNE, regent in 1740 and  
1741, died 1745, married to An-  
thony Ulrick of Brunswick.

JOHN, born 1740, Emperor  
1740, dethroned 1741, mur-  
dered at Stassfurt, 1764.

CATHERINE, ELIZABETH,  
born 1741, born 1742,  
now living. now living.

PETER, joint Czar with  
JOHN 1682, sole Czar  
1696, died 1725.

ALEXIS, son of PETER,  
by Eudocia Lapukin, his  
first Wife, died 1718.

PETER II, Emperor 1727,  
died without issue 1730.

CATHERINE, widow of PETER,  
succeeded him in the Empire,  
died 1727.

ANNE, married  
to Charles, Duke  
of Holstein Gottorp.  
ELIZABETH  
Empress 1741,  
died without  
issue 1761.

PETER III. Em-  
peror 1761, de-  
throned June 29,  
1762, died July 9,  
1762, now  
reigning.

PAUL PETROWICH,  
Great Duke of Rus-  
sia, born Sept. 22,  
O. S. 1754.

## C H A P. V.

*Title of the Sovereign.*

THE style of the present sovereign is Empress and Autocratrix of all the Russias, &c. This title is affected on every occasion to a most ridiculous excess; insomuch that the Russians, whether in writing or speaking, join the word *imperial* to every thing indifferently, that has the smallest relation to the court; such as, imperial palace, imperial stables, imperial ministry, imperial footmen, imperial gardens, imperial coaches, imperial horses, &c. in short, the court of Russia is so enamour'd of this epithet, that the omission of it in any instance, where it may be applied, is seriously considered as an intentional disrespect.

Indeed, the name of Emperor is almost a new thing in this country, and, tho' universally used, is very little understood: the ancient style of the monarch was *Veliki Knez*, great Duke, or great Prince; but when John Basilowich the first, had conquered Casan, he assumed the title of

Czar, which was borne by the sovereigns of that country. It is affirmed, that anciently all foreign princes in writing to the Czar, addressed their letters *imperator totius Ruffiæ*, and it is very certain that queen Elizabeth in her letter to John Bafilowich the second, in 1559, conformed to that usage: but these examples are of little force, because, at that time, such titles were commonly granted to all distant and barbarous princes, in the same manner as at this day, we give the name of Emperor, without scruple, to the sovereigns of Morocco, Monomotapa, and Misacomby.

Besides, none of John Bafilowich's successors ever dreamed of this title, till Peter the first, who altering every thing to the fashion of Germany, assumed in 1721 the same title which is borne by the head or first prince of that empire. My lord Carlisle, who was ambassador at Mosco in 1663, in speaking or writing never gave any other title to Alexis Michaelowich, than *Czarea majestas*.

Russia, indeed, has since made so considerable a figure, and seems to have this title so much at heart, that most of the powers in Europe have acquiesced in it  
and

and the present Empress, to prevent future trouble or disputes, has given a general *reversal*, by which she disclaims all pretence to a change of the ceremonial, by a change of the style. It may not be improper to remark here, the in consequence or ignorance of this court, which are so great, that in that very reversal, they declared the epithet Imperial, inherent in the crown of Russia, independent of any other power ; tho' the senate, in their famous address to Peter the first, entreat him to accept the title of Emperor, because it had been granted to one of his predecessors, by Maximilian the first.

## C H A P. VI.

### *Government and Laws.*

THE government is entirely despotic, whatever may *have been* pretended by some shallow politicians; (a) who imagine that the establishment of a senate,

(a) Vide *Lettres Russiennes*.



of colleges, and chanceries, for conducting public business, in imitation of foreign methods, has altered the spirit, as well as the form, of the constitution: but these visionaries have often found to *their cost* the vanity and falsehood of such an opinion, tho' it must be allowed, that the administration of the present Empress, one or two instances excepted, has been extremely mild and gentle; perhaps too mild, too gentle for the rough nature of her subjects, whose manners are not yet sufficiently softened for them to receive a grateful impression of her lenity and moderation.

Many attempts, however, have been made to abridge the sovereign authority, but all without success. By the constitution established at the election of Michael Romanoff, the power of the crown was circumscribed within very narrow bounds; but liberty was a plant that never grew kindly in this soil, it either withered of itself, or was easily extirpated: Alexis Michaelowich was as absolute as any of his predecessors, and Peter the first still more absolute than all.

The

The Empress Anne mounted the throne, under such limitations, as gave her only the shadow of authority; but she soon brought back the government to its ancient principles, and rigorously punished the authors of the new.

To give a clearer idea of the real state of this constitution, it will be necessary to make a short sketch of the prerogative, and of the administration established by that prerogative.

The sovereign power legislative and executive, is in the person of the Empress: she can without form or process of law, deprive any subject of life, liberty or estate: she can seize the public treasure, however appropriated; raise or debase the value of the coin; make peace or war; augment or diminish her troops; frame new laws, or repeal old ones; and finally, nominate her successor to the throne, without regarding any of those circumstances which establish the right of inheritance in other kingdoms. Such are the undoubted and indisputable prerogatives of the crown.

The senate for civil, and the synod for ecclesiastical affairs, are the supreme courts of justice and administration under the sovereign;

sovereign ; their dignity and authority are equal in their respective branches ; from their decisions, an appeal lies to the sovereign ; but if frivolous or ill-grounded, the penalty to the appellant is loss of life by the laws ; tho' at present, the gentleness of the government only inflicts a fine on the party if noble, or corporal punishment if of inferior degree.

The edicts of the sovereign are either general or particular ; the latter are addressed to that college or chancery, whose duty it is to put them in execution ; the first, which are of universal force throughout the whole empire, are addressed to the senate, and tho' *sui juris*, are yet formally enregistered and recorded there. The name of the sovereign is used in all edicts or (*b*) ukases, orders, resolutions, rules of court, &c. &c. passed by, to, or from all colleges and chanceries whatsoever ; they all run in her name beginning thus : " The edict or ukase of her imperial Majesty from such a college, &c. " to such an one."

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( *b* ) Ukase is the general Russian term for all edicts or orders, whether of the sovereign, the senate, colleges or chanceries.

The senate or fynod, have properly no other head or president than the sovereign herself, who, when she honors those assemblies with her presence, fills the imperial chair which is placed at the upper end of the table.

The number of senators, which are all appointed by the crown, is unlimited; they take place not according to their seniority, as senators, but according to their rank in the service. Formerly all the members of the senate sat in one assembly; but the present Empress for the ease and expedition of business, has divided it into six chambers or (c) departments, four of which

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(c) This was done in 1763, in consequence of the confusion and discord that reigned in the senate, and of which the Empress herself had been one day witness, upon which she wrote the following letter; but as it had not the desired effect, she divided the senate into six departments, according to the form which it now subsists in.

Gentlemen Senators,

I cannot positively say that ye have not a patriotick concern for my interest, and the welfare of my empire; yet it is with grief I find myself obliged to tell you, that the publick business is not dispatched with that success or expedition I could wish. The affair of the governor Massoyeadoff, discussed this day in the senate, may alone suffice as a proof, without mentioning many

which are at St. Petersbourg, when the court is there, and two at Mosco; and so, *vice versâ*, when the court resides at Mosco, there are two at St. Peterfbourg and four at Mosco. There are generally five senators in each department, and a head procurator or comptroller. The procurator or comptroller of the first department,

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ny other instances wherein our interest and that of the publick suffers. Desirous therefore of knowing the real cause of this, we have found, to our extreme mortification, that it arises from discord, the effect of hatred and enmity between the persons who compose the senate; infomuch, that bearing ill will to any thing proposed by another, ye perplex and impede business, divide into parties, and are continually endeavoring to exasperate your colleagues: in a word, such transactions happen among ye, as are by no means consistent with the character of well-disposed, wise, and respectable persons; from hence follow those dissensions and that unbounded malice, which equally hinder the advancement of our interest and that of the subject.

I believe that every one of you, who appeals to his own conscience, must acknowledge the truth of this our observation. God, the only searcher of hearts, knows how anxious we are to promote the happiness of our beloved country, and indeed nothing affords us so much comfort as it's present flourishing condition; we place all our satisfaction in your happiness, in that of all our faithful subjects; and in a just and impartial administration of justice thro' your channel,



ment, has the title of procurator general, and acts in that capacity at all full meetings of the senate, that is to say, of the four departments that reside with the sovereign; which full meetings are only held for extraordinary business, or affairs of the highest consequence.

The

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nel, and in the ease and tranquillity which must arise from it to my people. You yourselves well know how much a mutual good understanding facilitates the dispatch of business, not only among those who are in the chief posts, but also among the middling and the lowest classes, and how mischievous in their consequences dissention and enmity are to a kingdom. It would be superfluous to cite examples on this head, both ancient and modern history furnish innumerable ones, and especially among the Greeks. And here I cannot avoid observing to you, that the perseverance of persons of such high rank, in enmity and discord, will, at length, provoke the sovereign to wrath, however patient and mercifully inclined she may be. Your dissensions become grievous and burdensome to our Empire, being propagated by a spirit of opposition to any affair proposed or transacted by another, merely because it is the work of another, however otherwise wise and beneficial in itself; and however incapable such opposer is to propose or form any thing of equal use and propriety. Whereas it ought to be considered, that all men are not equally qualified by nature, and that the talents of some are beyond comparison superior to those of others; for which reason, every one ought to act with moderation, and with becoming decency follow the dictates  
of

The duty of the senate is to execute, or cause to be executed, the orders of the sovereign, to explain the laws; to direct the manner of collecting and applying the taxes; to superintend sundry colleges, chanceries, and offices; and to try appeals from those colleges, &c. which are brought before them in the different branches particularly allotted to the inspection of each department. They also

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of sound judgment, without vanity or obstinacy, and by that means adopt laudable and patriotic measures.

Having thus sufficiently intimated our will and sentiments, we, in conclusion, declare upon our word, that nothing will give us more real pleasure, than to see discord, enmity, and hatred (which have hitherto too much prevailed among you) entirely exterminated, and in lieu thereof, peace, harmony, and friendship established among you, to our satisfaction, and that of the whole empire, together with unanimous endeavors to promote the welfare of our beloved country; in which may it please the Almighty God to aid and strengthen you.

The original was written in her Imperial Majesty's own hand, and signed

June 14, 1763.

CATHERINE.

(Note) The above is a *literal* Translation from the original Russian, which I preferred to an elegant one, that the reader might form a better idea of the Idiom of the Language, and of the manner of the Empress's writing.

make

make by-laws or regulations in affairs of lesser moment, which are not judged of sufficient consequence to be brought immediately to the throne.

The members of the synod, like those of the senate, are unlimited in point of number, and are also nominated by the crown : they consist of certain bishops and dignified clergy, who are most eminent for piety and learning. The metropolitan of Novogorod, by his rank in the church, is generally the first member : the bishops and abbots take place as their sees or monasteries have precedence. The synod has an head procurator or comptroller, who in the synod has the same authority as the procurator general has in the senate.

The synod always attends the court, but has an office or inferior dependent synod at Peterfbourg or Mosco, during the absence of the sovereign from either of these cities.

Since the crown has taken the administration of the church lands into its own care, the synod has much less business than formerly. It still continues however to be the highest ecclesiastical court, and to judge all causes and regulate all

G

affairs

affairs relative to the church ; but still is subject to the control of the sovereign in case of appeal.

One dissentient voice in the senate is sufficient to stop a decree till the sovereign decides upon the representation, which it is the procurator general's duty to make when the senate is not unanimous ; and he of himself, can stop any decree, tho' unanimously voted, till the sovereign's pleasure shall be known : the same manner of proceeding is observed in the synod.

There are five offices which are immediately under the senate, and which indeed in some measure, make a part of it, viz.

1st. The master of request's office. Here all petitions to the senate are first brought, read, and if approved, new drawn according to the proper form, and signed by the master of the requests.

2d. The herald's office, which keeps the register of the nobility ; and which when vacancies of civil employments happen in the interior parts of the empire, recommends

recommends to the senate the proper persons to fill them.

3d. The archive, or paper office, where are kept the archives of the empire and all state papers, except those belonging to the college of foreign affairs.

4th. The cash office, which has the copper coinage under its inspection, as also all sums of money issued from the state office for the uses and orders of the senate, upon assignment of the sovereign.

5th. The prison office, to which monthly reports are made concerning all persons in the different prisons of the empire in order to prevent the innocent from long languishing in confinement.

Tho' the number of senators be unlimited, there are seldom more than five, and never less than three, in any of the departments. They are in general supposed to be persons eminent for their rank, talents and integrity. We find in the present number the names of



Field marshal Soltikoff, who commanded the Russian army in Germany in 1759, and gained the battles of Palsick and Frankfort.

Field marshal Butturlin, who commanded the Russian army in Germany in 1760 and 1761.

Mr. Panin.

General Panin, his brother.

Count Fermor, who commanded the Russian army in Germany in 1758, and lost the battle of Zorndorff.

Count Sheremetoff, great chamberlain.

The two count Woronzoffs, brothers to the late chancellor.

Prince Wolkonskoy, general of horse, and nephew to the late chancellor Betsoucheff.

Mr. Olsufieff, privy counsellor, and conferrer to her Majesty.

Mr. Adaduroff, privy counsellor, and formerly preceptor to her Majesty for the Russian language.

Prince Trubetskoy, privy counsellor.

Mr. Tchetcherin, lieutenant general and master of the police.

At present the six departments consist of twenty five senators.

All colleges and chanceries (except the secret department of the college of foreign affairs, which is responsible only to the sovereign) I say, all colleges and chanceries are dependant upon the senate. No college can make any contract, for more than (e) ten thousand roubles, without the consent of the senate; whatever any college buys or sells exceeding that sum, must be referred to, and approved by the senate.

All procurators of the different colleges of the empire, depend upon the procurator-general of the senate. If they observe any thing contrary to law transacting in the different colleges, &c. to which they belong, it is their duty to stop it, and make their report to him.

From this circumstance he derives prodigious influence, and often infinite wealth, especially if he abuses his authority; and I have heard of but few instances, where a person in that employment, has had virtue enough to resist the temptations which it affords. But the charge of corruption is not peculiar to this office, for it is said to be no less prevalent in most others.

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(e) 2000l. Sterling.

Laws.

From what has been said above, relative to the government of this Empire, it cannot be expected that the laws should be in any state of regularity, (*f*) precision, or perfection; far otherwise, for nothing can equal the tediousness, confusion, contradiction, and iniquity, which universally reign in the Russian courts of justice.

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(*f*) As a proof of the imperfection of the laws in this country, I shall give only a single instance.

According to the established laws, when a man dies his fortune is divided into fourteen equal parts; the widow has two fourteenths, each daughter one, and the remainder is to be shared among the sons. From this distribution it follows, that in case there should be a widow and twelve daughters, the sons are entitled to no share.

I mentioned this strange circumstance to a gentleman who passes here to be more reasonable, or rather less ignorant than the generality of his countrymen, who very phlegmatically told me that it was not necessary to make a new law upon this point, because the case had never yet happened.

The right of primogeniture was established by Peter the first, but abolished by the empress Anne.

A man who has no children by his wife, is obliged at her death to restore to her relations, the whole fortune which he had received with her in marriage. However, if there are children, he has the administration and usufruct of their estates, a child having no right, living the father. — The authority of a parent over his child is almost absolute, and the law allows no redress to the latter against the former.

In

In order, however, to give some idea of the laws by which (except where the sovereign authority interferes) all causes are tried and decided, I shall observe that they are contained, first, in the *Soudebnick* or judges manual, published in 1559 by John Bafilowich; secondly, in the *Oulogenia*, or Institutes of Alexis Michaelowich in 1649; thirdly, in the regulations of Peter the first, for the different courts of judicature, and for the different colleges of war, admiralty, &c; and lastly, in the ukases or edicts, which from time to time have been issued on several occasions by Peter the first, and his successors; which edicts are of immediate authority, and supersede all former laws, that are not entirely consonant with them.

And such confusion and want of method prevail here, that those edicts are constantly quoted without attending to, or considering the nature of the cause; so that an edict made entirely for the regulation of a military point, may be cited as an authority in a civil, or even in an ecclesiastical affair; and an edict issued for the determination of a civil or ecclesiastical matter, is often produced to enforce obedience in a military one. And here it

may not be improper to take notice, that the law is not a profession in Russia ; that is to say, no causes are pleaded before the courts of justice, by persons appointed for that purpose, and retained in behalf of the parties. The method of proceeding is by way of bill and answer, the plaintiff delivers his complaint in writing, the defendant either immediately replies in the same manner, or gives security to do so ; they then bring their proofs which are enregistered, in presence of each other, by the secretary of the court where the cause is tried ; after which the secretary makes the proper extracts, *pro & con*, from the laws and edicts (for they have no reports or year books to direct them) which extracts the litigants must sign, and the judges decide upon. Their decree is then publicly read, and a copy delivered to each of the parties, who, if dissatisfied, must enter into obligation to lodge an appeal within a limited time, otherwise execution immediately ensues.

Tho' it has been said above, that the law is not a profession here, as in other countries, yet there are a set of fellows called *Strapcheys*, or solicitors, who, when the principals do not chuse to appear themselves,



themselves, are appointed to act for them, and in their name ; but they are not sworn of the profession, nor are they considered in any other light than as the servants of those who employ them. In general, they are peasants or slaves bred to the trade of chicanery from their childhood ; almost every gentleman has his *Strapcheys* ; they are in general very sharp and expert in their business ; inso-much that they will undertake to spin out any cause for a term of years, on payment of a certain sum agreed on, according to the value and importance of the matter litigated.

Besides the common courts of judicature which are established for the cognizance of ordinary causes, the sovereign sometimes convenes the senate, the synod, the presidents of colleges, and all civil and military officers of the four first classes, upon particular occasions, or for trials of extraordinary consequence. Not that such an assembly is considered as any essential part of the constitution, for it is neither established by any written laws, nor any particular cases pointed out, where a convention of this nature should be expedient or necessary ; the will of the  
sovereign

sovereign alone determines the circumstance, and it must be allowed that this court has been held only on the most solemn and important occasions. Such as for the trial of the Czarewitz, son to Peter the first in 1718; and for the trial of Mirowitz in 1764, under the present Empress, and some few others.

The senate, synod, and all the colleges, chanceries, &c. in the form which we now see them, were settled and appointed by Peter the first. Tho', it is true, that he made several laws by no means suitable or seasonable, yet he certainly made many excellent ones, and established regular methods of executing them, as far as was possible in a country where, at that time, and perhaps in later days, the regular laws for the security of life and property, which are universally received in all civilized nations, were as little known, read, or understood, as among the Cherokees or Chickesaws.

He divided the administration into a number of colleges or chanceries, each of which ought to have cognizance of its proper objects.

These are resident either at Petersburg, or at Mosco, as their different branches  
of

of business require. Those of Petersburg have their delegated offices at Mosco, and those of Mosco, in the same manner, have theirs at Petersburg.

Here follows a short sketch of the principal colleges and chanceries, all which, as before observed (except the secret department of the college of foreign affairs) are dependant upon the senate.

Each college usually consists of a president, vice-president, two counsellors, an assessor, a procurator or comptroller, and a secretary with his assistants.

*The College of Foreign Affairs.*

This college is entrusted with the management of all foreign affairs. The Russian ministers, agents, consuls, commissaries, &c. resident either abroad or on the frontiers, depend upon this board, and address their dispatches to it. It is composed of two offices, one of which for the transaction of common business, is subordinate to the senate; the other called the secret department, is responsible to the sovereign alone.

The monies, appropriated to the service of this college, are assigned according to  
its

its occasions, and are solely under its own management.

*The College of War.*

This college which resembles our war office, issues all the orders of the sovereign, respecting the army, garrisons and military affairs in general, the guards and ordnance excepted; the first of which are under the immediate direction of the Empress, the other depends on the great master: the commissary general's office, the expeditions or warrants for cloathing the army, contracting for provisions, forage and subsistence, filling the magazines, furnishing baggage waggons, &c. in short, every thing, that belongs to the land service, is under the inspection of this board.

*The College of Admiralty.*

This college has the general direction of the marine, of the men of war, the gallies, the ports, havens, &c. in all parts of the empire. The building ships, the making contracts for the navy, the corps of sea cadets, &c. all the boards and lesser

fer offices for dispatching marine affairs, depend upon this college.

*The College of Finances.*

This college properly ought to take a general cognizance of all the revenues of the crown, without having either the direction or disbursement of them. It was formerly of much more extensive jurisdiction than at present, but it's authority has been limited or divided, either by the appointment of new offices, or changing the usual channel of business. It has the sole direction of the monopolies of beer and brandy, and other strong liquors, which make a considerable part of the public revenue. The casual revenues of the government, arising from the baths, bridges, ferries, mills, shops, &c. tho' not very considerable, are particularly under this board's inspection.

*The College of Justice.*

This college is a tribunal, to which there lies an appeal, in all affairs of justice, as well civil as criminal, that have been adjudged in the several courts of judicature  
throughout



throughout the different governments of the empire.

Formerly, when capital punishments were in use, all sentences of death were referred to this board, from the courts which passed them, and if approved, were executed without further confirmation. But at present, when a malefactor is condemned, a report is made to the senate, which, by a general order of the sovereign, changes the punishment, and sends the criminal to the mines, or to labor at the public works.

*The College of Justice for the conquered Provinces, viz. Livonia, Esthonia and Finland.*

This board has the same authority with respect to the conquered provinces which the preceding one has with respect to Russia, and determines the causes which come before it according to the different privileges and customs of each province. It has also the general superintendency of all affairs relative to the exercise of foreign religions in the empire.

*The*

*The College of real Estates.*

The boundaries and divisions of lands, the titles of possession, and in general, every thing which concerns the landed estates and immoveable property of private persons, are under the management and decision of this college.

*The College of Revisions.*

To this board all the colleges, governments, chanceries and offices in general, are obliged to send in an exact account of all monies which have been expended under their direction during the course of the year. In case there appears any deficiency, or that money has been issued without proper warrant, this college imposes a fine adequate to the offence; but if, on the contrary, no malversation appears, gives a general acquittance,

*The College of Commerce.*

This board is particularly entrusted with the care of all branches of trade which belong to the government; such as the  
crown

crown iron and furs, as also the rhubarb and pot-ash, which two last are monopolies. It decides also in all law-suits which the British merchants have with each other, or with other merchants; our factory being by treaty subject only to the jurisdiction of the college of commerce. The inspection of all the customs and custom-houses of the empire belongs to this board.

*The College of Mines.*

This college takes care of the exact payment of the tenths which the government receives from all mines, that belong to private persons. It has also the regulation of the mines of the crown, it decides all law-suits relative to mines, and grants the necessary privileges to such persons as offer to open new mines, after examining the circumstances, and approving the proposals. The gold and silver coinage depends upon this college.

*The College of Manufactures.*

This board has the inspection of all the manufactures of the empire; it grants the  
proper

proper privileges to those who are desirous of establishing new ones ; and determines all law-suits or disputes which arise among the proprietors of manufactories.

*The superior Court of Magistracy.*

This college judges in all causes relative to bills of exchange, and decides all law-suits among the trading part of the nation, whether merchants or mechanics, the English excepted, who are particularly under the college of commerce. The inferior courts of magistracy throughout the whole empire are subject to the direction and cognizance of this board.

*The College of Medicine.*

This board has the direction of all physicians, surgeons and apothecaries ; who are not permitted to practise, till they are first examined, approved and licensed by this college. It is also charged with the care of providing and furnishing all sorts of drugs, &c. for the apothecaries shops.

*The College of OEconomy.*

This college has the direction and management of the church estates; which being lately taken out of the hands of the ecclesiastics, are now vested in the crown for particular purposes, as will be mentioned hereafter.

*The Police.*

This office is called a chancery, and has all objects of police under its inspection; such as the examination of the pass-ports of all persons resorting to, or going from, the capital; the cleaning and lighting the streets; the sending assistance in case of fires; the arresting disorderly persons, and the punishing all trifling thefts, and lesser crimes which are committed among the lower sort of people.

several  
offices.

Most of the other offices and chanceries, &c. sufficiently indicate by their titles the business with which they are entrusted: such as the *Tamskoy* chancery, which has the care of furnishing post-horses to travellers; that which superintends



tends the buildings and gardens of the Empress: that which manages the private estates and demesnes of the sovereign; that which has the confiscations under its inspection; that which presides over the banks instituted by the crown, for lending money to the nobility and tradesmen at a moderate interest upon proper security. There are also the court chancery, stable chancery, &c. but I must particularly take notice of two others, *viz.* the salt-office, and the state-office; the first contracts for the salt, purchases it, and sells it to the subject; the other is an office of general receipt for all the revenues of the empire, except those which are otherwise appointed by particular regulation; and has the care of paying all salaries, wages and pensions, charged on the civil list.

C H A P. VII.

*The Empire is divided into Nineteen*  
GOVERNMENTS, viz.

1. **M** O S C O,
2. St. Petersbourg,
3. Novogorod.
4. Archangel.
5. Smolensko.
6. Kioff.
7. Belgorod.
8. Voronitz.
9. Nichnigorod.
10. Casan.
11. Astracan.
12. Orenburg.
13. Siberia.
14. Irkutski.
15. New Russia, formerly called New  
Servia.
16. Little Russia, or the Ukraine.
17. Livonia.
18. Esthonia.
19. Finland.

These

These Governments are subdivided into Provinces and Districts. The chancery of each government is to take care that the revenues of the crown, within its department, be punctually paid ; to maintain good order ; and to execute the ukases, which are sent to them by the senate or other colleges. In short, the police, the public security, repairs of roads, inspection of the salt officers, excisemen, and collectors of the poll-tax, the public justice in civil and criminal affairs, and in general, every thing that regards the interior administration, depends upon the government chanceries. It is a kind of senate to the provinces and districts under its authority, which provinces and districts are under the direction of their respective vayvodes, who have also each a particular chancery ; from which an appeal lies to the government chancery ; and from that to the superior colleges in the capital, according to the nature of the case ; from those to the senate, and from the senate to the sovereign ; for in this country, the course of justice is a chain of appeal, delay, chicanery and corruption.

Under these nineteen governors are 152 vayvodes ; who, as mentioned above, are a kind of subdelegated magistrates to the governors, and dependent upon, and responsible to, them.

In every town, there is a court of magistracy for the business of the burghers ; also an office of police for preserving the publick peace and good order ; and in every diocese, a consistory is held for ecclesiastical affairs.

All the colleges, chanceries, and public offices, from the highest to the lowest, may be said to have a judicial and executive power, and are all, more or less, concerned in some parts of the administrative business ; for it can scarcely be affirmed of any particular one, that its power or jurisdiction is judicial only.

It is understood, however, tho' not strictly attended to, that each college and chancery ought to take cognizance of its proper branches only ; but the chanceries of the governors and vayvodes, especially such as are at a distance from the capital, have, and are obliged to have cognizance of almost every object whatsoever, whether judicial, administrative, or executive.

All

All orders of all kinds, (except military orders) being directed to the vayvode, or civil magistrate of the place to which they relate, he, in consequence that he may be qualified to understand every thing that comes before him, ought to be well skilled in law, politics, finances, manufactures, medicine, mineralogy, and what not ?

From this circumstance, may be collected the monstrous absurdity of the interior polity of this Empire ; and how difficult in any country, but how impossible in this, to find persons properly qualified to fill employments of such extensive jurisdiction ; where the power is so exorbitant, and the abuse of it, so easy. In general, these vayvodes are extremely poor and ignorant, being commonly inferior officers, discharged from the service, or persons who despair of a more honorable advancement ; their salary seldom exceeds (a) six hundred roubles, and often does not amount to so much ; so that rapacity and extortion often become necessary for their very support and subsistence.

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(a) £ 120.



I observed before, that, in the senate, all decrees must be unanimously voted ; the reason of which is, that the senate being supposed to reside near the person of the sovereign, recourse may be immediately had to her, in case of division ; but the practice is otherwise with regard to the colleges and chanceries, in which, (as many of them lie at a distance from court,) the decision passes by plurality of voices ; but a dissentient has a right to enter his protest, and assign his reasons for not agreeing with his colleagues : this precaution saves him from fine or reprimand, in case the sentence is afterwards reversed upon an appeal.

And here in mentioning these fines and reprimands, I cannot avoid taking notice of a ridiculous affair, which happened not long since at St. Petersburg : the college of justice having made a decision, which, upon appeal, was determined to be unjust, the senate ordered the judges to be publicly censured : a revolution soon after happening, the college of justice was totally changed ; the mandate of the senate, however, still continued in force, and the new members, who were entire strangers to the former proceedings  
of

of their college, were obliged to attend, and were very solemnly and severely reprimanded, for a sentence of which they were totally guiltless and ignorant.

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## C H A P. VIII.

### *Of the REVENUES.*

THE revenues of this empire are, by no means, proportionable to its extent, population, and commerce; they are, however, in general, very dexterously managed, very wisely appropriated, and so happily employed, that no sovereignty in Europe ever arrogated such power, maintained such armies, extended such influence, or accomplished such great designs, with treasures so slender, means so seemingly inadequate, or on terms so moderate and easy. In the administration of these revenues, the dignity of the sovereign and the security of the state are equally consulted. Each department of importance has its particular fund, which arises from the appropriation of a certain tax, or from a fixed assignment on the  
state

state-office: which fund is usually greater than the necessities which it is intended to supply, so that there is often a considerable treasure lying in the principal colleges, which accrues from the accumulation of unemployed money. The sovereign has certain branches of the revenue, which are looked upon as particularly belonging to herself, for the maintenance of her court, and the expences of her privy purse. It is true, that by her prerogative she has the whole wealth of the empire at her own disposal; but the present empress has rarely violated the public order, or usual administration of the finances.

Her conduct, indeed, seems to have been directed by so much generosity and patriotism, that except in the affair of the coinage, where she was probably misled by the example of a neighbouring monarch, I recollect no instances of her injustice, during the course of my residence.

The whole revenues of Russia, in the year 1710, did not amount to (a) nine millions of roubles; in 1750, they were encreased to (b) nineteen millions; and

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(a) £ 1,800,000.

(b) £ 3,800,00.



at this present period, they actually exceed (c) twenty-four millions and an half.

To us who have been accustomed to see upwards of twenty millions sterling, *i. e.* an hundred millions of roubles, swallowed up by the expences of a single year, these revenues will appear poor and inconsiderable; yet (d) are they sufficient to pay an army of 400,000 men, well clothed, well armed, and in every respect well appointed; to maintain a fleet of twenty-two ships of the line, nine frigates, and 50 gallies, with 14,000 seamen; and to defray the expences of a most numerous and splendid court, which in grandeur and magnificence excels every other in Europe (e); whether we consider the sumptuousness of the table, the richness and brilliancy of the dress, the blaze and profusion of jewels, the taste and elegance of equipages, or the good

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(c) £ 4,900,000.

(d) Tho' the army and navy are not complete, yet the money appropriated for their service is much more than the whole expence would amount to, if there did not want a single recruit.

(e) It must, however, be remembered here, that the Great Marshal of the court is not a Russian.

order

order and propriety, which conduct and regulate the whole.

All these things are performed, not only with the standing revenues, without contracting any debt ; but are performed in such a wise and frugal manner, that there remains an annual saving of (f) five millions of roubles, over and above all the expences of the state.

As to the appropriations or assignment of the different taxes, which I have mentioned above, we shall immediately see what they are, by looking over the following schedule of the public revenues, as they are derived from the various resources of the empire, either naturally obvious in themselves, or happily discovered by ministerial sagacity,

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(f) £ 1,000,000.

*Schedule*



*Schedule of the Annual Revenues of RUSSIA.*

1. The poll-tax, which is paid by 7,483,235 males. This tax is entirely appropriated to the paying and furnishing the army (the guards and artillery excepted) and there remains after all expences paid, an annual balance of at least a million of roubles, which is left untouched to accumulate for extraordinary occasions, - - - - -

Ro. 7,303,200

£. 1,460,640

2. The profits arising from the monopolies of beer, brandy and other strong liquors. Out of these 1,200,000 roubles *per annum* are paid to the admiralty for the service of the navy, the the expence of which is much less than the sum appropriated. So that there is likewise a considerable saving upon this article, which is left to accumulate for extraordinary occasions, in the same manner as the surplus of the poll-tax above mention-

ed.

Brought over { Ro. 7,303,200  
£. 1,460,640

ed. The guards and part of the artillery are charged upon the beer and brandy fund, the remainder is appropriated or assigned to various uses; - - - Ro. 5,500,000  
£. 1,100,000

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3. The customs upon exports and imports throughout the whole empire. These are intended to supply the casual deficiencies, which might possibly arise from the insufficiency of other funds; to defray the expences of the mint, of the publick buildings, gardens, fortifications, &c. - - - - - Ro. 3,000,000  
£. 600,000

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4. The church revenues amounting to 2,300,000 roubles, out of which 800,000 are to be deducted for the maintenance of the clergy, and for all the incidental expences of the church :

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Ro. 15,893,200  
£. 3,160,640  
so

Brought over { Ro. 15,803,200  
£. 3,160,640

so that there then remains for  
the publick service, - - - Ro. 1,500,000  
£. 300,000

This residue is intended to be employed in the establishment of schools and seminaries of learning; in paying the pensions of invalid officers and soldiers; of officers widows and children; in founding hospitals, and in other pious uses.

5. The dogody, or state revenues, which arise from the duty of 8 *per cent.* on protested bills of exchange, and of 10 *per cent.* on all sales of lands and houses, from the stamped paper, from the profits of the crown bank, from the tenths of the mines of private persons, from the excise on iron and furs in Siberia, from the rent of mills, houses, baths, &c. &c. together with several lesser taxes, - -

Ro. 3,500,000  
£. 700,000

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Ro. 21,253,200  
£. 4,060,640

These

Brought over { Ro. 21,253,200  
£. 4,060,640

These are sent up from all the respective officers that collect or receive them to the general state office and are employed in the payment of the civil list; and of such assignments as the crown grants, for the extraordinaries of the colleges and chanceries, over and above the sums usually allotted to them.

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6. Revenues of Livonia, Esthonia, and Finland, exclusive of the customs which are comprehended under the article No. 3.

Ro. 600,000  
£. 120,000

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7. To these are to be added the revenues appropriated to the sovereign's separate use, which are,

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Ro. 21,403,200  
£. 4,280,640

I. The

Brought over { Ro. 21,403,200  
£. 4,280,640

1. The demefne  
lands of the crown Ro. 600,000  
£. 120,000

2. The gabelle on  
falt, - - - - Ro. 1,800,000  
£. 360,000

3. The gold and  
filver mines of  
Calavan, Cather-  
inberg, and  
Nerchinski - - Ro. 800,000  
£. 50,000

4. The iron mines  
of Blogodat, - - Ro. 250,000 Ro. 3450,000  
£. 50,000 £. 690,000

Roubles 24,853,200  
or Pounds Sterling 4,970,640

Most of the above taxes and revenues are levied and received by courts and offices, which are besides employed in many other branches of business, both judicial and executive. And as no man receives more than the salary (*g*) of one employment tho' he may hold several, the collection costs very little to the government. In certain imposts, and particularly the capitulation, it is the custom to appoint some of the peasants or burghers, who are obliged to act as collectors without pay or emolument; in others a more eligible method is pursued, and superannuated officers and other persons on the invalid or pension list, who are yet

(*g*) Table of the RUSSIAN establishment of rank and salary --- for the army, navy and civil.

ARMY.	NAVY	Ro <i>p. an.</i>	CIVIL	Ro. <i>p. an.</i>
Field marshall	High admiral	8242	Great chancellor	7000
General in chief	Admiral	4154	Actual privy councillor	3600
Lieut. general	Vice admiral	2531	Privy councillor	2400
Major general	Rear admiral	2097	Actual councillor of state	2250
Brigadier	Commodore	1000	Councillor of state, And if vice president of a college }	1000 1875
Colonel	Capt. of 1st rank	752	Councillor of a college	750
Lieut. colonel	Capt. of 2d rank	460	Councillor of court	600
First major	Capt. Lieutenant	380	Assessor	450

capable



capable of such service, are appointed to this employment.

The poll-tax according to the last assessment or number of souls in each town, village, &c. comes always net into the publick coffers, for all who die between the different assessments, are paid for by the family to which they belonged: all, however, that are born during that time, are tax-free till they are enregistered at the next revision, which is usually made every fifteen or twenty years. Tho' many, thro' old age, infirmity, or poverty, are not in a capacity to pay the capitation, yet it is not lost to the government, for the wealthier inhabitants of each village are obliged to pay for those who cannot pay for themselves, in such proportion as their respective faculties are supposed to enable them: of course it frequently happens, that an opulent peasant pays the capitation of eight or ten others, besides his own.

The same rules which prevail in levying the poll-tax for the crown, are pretty nearly observed in collecting the rent of the landlord; with this difference, however, that the crown has but one claim, which when satisfied is not renewed till

the next year ; whereas the proprietor may multiply his pretensions as he pleases, and many of them never cease to demand as long as they imagine the tenant able to pay.

Under the head of taxes may very properly be comprehended the recruiting of the army and navy ; because it lies extremely heavy on the subject, as he is forced to contribute to it, either by parting with his money or personally engaging in the service.

Formerly the army and navy were recruited once in every five years ; but by the new regulation, they are henceforth to be recruited occasionally as necessity may demand. This is done by enlisting, or rather pressing one man out of any given number of those who pay the poll-tax : of a larger number when few recruits are wanted, of a smaller when many are required. Thus at present, 50,000 being wanting to complete the army, it will be necessary to enlist every 150th man ; because 50,000 is the 150th part of 7,500,000 the supposed number of inhabitants who are obliged to furnish recruits. I have been assured that so great was the destruction, by sickness and the sword,

sword, in field marshal Munnich's expeditions to Crim Tartary and Moldavia, in 1736 and 1737, that it became necessary to levy a recruit for every 65th man, during two years successively; which according to the state of population at that time, amounted annually to the 100th part of the whole.

Each community, be it town, borough, or village, as soon as the recruiting orders are issued, chuses or presses the people which it is obliged to furnish; and generally speaking, the lot goes from house to house in rotation: they do not, however, allow the business to be so far directed by chance, as to neglect delivering up the idle and burdensome, if they be of a proper size and strength for the service. In the towns, creditable and substantial burghers are never enlisted, the family too that has few working hands is usually passed by, and the recruit supplied from another that has a greater number. Rich families often purchase men in lieu of those which they would otherwise be obliged to furnish, by which means they are of course exempted, till their turn comes round again; they are then subject to the recruiting order as before: for

the fallacy of supposing a substitute to be one's self, as was ingeniously urged in our debates on the militia, never entered into the head of a Russian.

It may not be improper to observe here, that in the same manner and by the same rules of procedure, the horses are furnished for mounting the cavalry, for the use of the artillery, and for the baggage of the field regiments.

The poll-tax, the recruits, the horses, or contribution money in lieu of the last, are all collected, pressed and levied without any interposition of the servants of the crown; the whole being managed and performed by the seniors or elders of the towns and villages, who account for their several quotas to the provincial or district chanceries, and take receipts for their deliveries.

With regard to the monopoly of beer, brandy, and other strong liquors, the crown contracts for and purchases such quantities of them as are supposed adequate to the consumption, and sells them at a very considerable profit to the taverns, tippling houses, &c. which, in this country, are prodigiously numerous. This particular revenue is usually let upon farm.

The

The customs were formerly let on farm also, but they are now in the hands of the government, and are received by special officers under the inspection of the custom-house chancery ; which is dependent on, or rather, makes a part of the college of commerce.

The church revenues are received by stewards or agents appointed by the crown in every diocese, and are by them paid into the college of œconomy, which as I have mentioned before, is a board particularly established for administering the temporalities of the church.

The dogody or state revenues, which are of different kinds, are received by the provincial chanceries.

As to the gabelle on salt, there are particular officers appointed in the different provinces for management of it, under the direction of the salt office, which is resident in the capital. The crown purchases the salt, and sells it at one price over the whole empire, a copeck *per* pound troy is the settled rate ; and no person here is obliged, as in France, to take more than he has occasion for.

## C H A P. IX.

*Of the Army.*

**T**HE Russian army when complete according to the present regulation, amounts to 387,054 men, of which 54,796 are irregulars; but tho' irregulars, were during the late war brought under a great degree of discipline, and did incomparable service.

The remainder (hussars included) are regular troops, which are appointed to different services according to their respective establishments.

The guards, which compose a body of about 11,000 men, serve only near the person of the sovereign.

The artillery regiments, and companies dependent on the artillery, amounting to 25,000 men, are employed in different places, according to circumstances and emergencies; but there is always one third of them quartered either in or near the capital.

The field regiments, consisting of 6 regiments of cuirassiers, 20 regiments of carabineers, 19 regiments of dragoons, 8  
regiments



regiments of hussars, and 63 regiments of infantry, of which 4 are grenadier regiments, amount in all to upwards of 180,000 men. These are distributed into 8 grand divisions, and two lesser corps, and, in case of war, these troops together with irregulars, are the only ones employed on foreign service.

The battalions of the garrisons, the light hussars and pikemen, consisting of upwards of 90,000 men, being intended solely for defence, are stationed, some on the frontiers, others in the interior of the empire, but are never sent abroad.

As to the irregulars, the Cossacks might, if necessary, be augmented to at least three times their present number. The Tartars, Calmucks, &c. subject to Russia, it is said, might be able to bring 300,000 horsemen into the field; but this would be so perilous an experiment, that as long as Russia can prevent it, she will never permit them to try it.

The regular troops being entirely composed of Russians (officers excepted) form the great strength of the empire, and may be very considerably augmented on any emergency.

But

But to augment these seems unnecessary, because the case can scarcely ever happen, that Russia will have occasion to employ more than 180,000 in her wars with any of the northern powers; and as to her southern neighbours, whether Turks, Tartars, Persians or Chinese, that number will always be sufficient to oppose to them; not to mention the irregulars, who perhaps would be the best kind of troops to let loose against such enemies.

Here follow two tables, one being a general state of the Russian army, according to its present establishment, the other a particular one of the field regiments, as distributed into 8 grand divisions and two lesser corps, on the first of January 1767.

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## C H A P. X.

### *Of the Navy.*

**I**N order to form an exact idea of it, I have here given two tables, the one shews the number and rates of the ships of war and their different stations, together with the establishment of officers, marines, and artificers, according to regulation

# A GENERAL TABLE of the ARMIES of HER IMPE

No.	Names of the Regiments.	Number of Men.	No.	Names of the Regiments.	Number of Men.	No.	Names of the Regiments.	Number of Men.	No.	Names of the Regiments.	Number of Men.
	Corps of Chevalier Guards	80		<i>Carabineers.</i>			<i>Hussars.</i>				
	REGIMENTS OF GUARDS.		1	Of Kargapol	942	1	Of Servie	1034	26	Of Bul	
1	Preobraschensky	3720	2	Narva	942	2	Hungary	1034	27	Wz	
2	Semenomsky	2689	3	Riga	942	3	Georgie	1034	28	Wol	
3	Ismailowsky	2689	4	St. Petersburg	942	4	Ostrogofsch	1034	29	Narv	
4	Horse Guards	1563	5	Kefan	942	5	Isoum	1034	30	Tob	
		10741	6	Astracan	942	6	Soum	1034	31	New	
	Corps of Noble Cadets	1006	7	Siberia	942	7	Charkow	1034	32	Cop	
	REGIMENTS OF ARTILLERY		8	Plescow	942	8	Achliz	1034	33	Sufd	
	and FUSILEERS.		9	Tweer	942			8272	34	Ugli	
	Bombardiers	2511	10	Perm	942		<i>INFANTRY.</i>		35	Mar	
	<i>Gunners.</i>		11	Wetka	942		<i>Grenadiers.</i>		36	Lado	
1	First Regiment	2497	12	Nischgorod	942	1	First Regiment	2094	37	Wibo	
2	Second Regiment	2497	13	Ingria	942	2	Second Regiment	2094	38	Kexh	
	<i>Fusileers.</i>		14	Jambourg	942	3	Third Regiment	2094	39	Apos	
1	First Regiment	2497	15	Tobol	942	4	Fourth Regiment	2094	40	Nifof	
2	Second Regiment	2497	16	Moscow	942			8376	41	Kabar	
	Corps of Engineers	1116	17	Novogorod	942				42	Nafcl	
	<i>Companies.</i>		18	Rostoff	942				43	Schir	
	Miners	206	19	Archangelgorod	942				44	Kour	
	Pioneers	245	20	Takutik	942		<i>Musketeers.</i>		45	Novo	
	At the Engineer and Artil- } lery Cadet Corps, and the } School of Arts	434		<i>Dragoons.</i>	18840	1	Of Ingria	2093	46	Teng	
	At the pontoons	168	1	Of Troitska	970	2	Astracan	2093	47	Starof	
	At the Field Baggage	4468	2	Woladimer	970	3	Moscow 1st Regt.	2093	48	Belew	
	At the Laboratory	147	3	Asoff	970	4	Moscow 2d do.	2093	49	Rzicl	
	At the two Powder Mills in } St. Petersburg	340	4	Reval	970	5	Bouliz	2093	50	Seff	
	In all the Garrisons	6268	5	Wologda	970	6	Kioff	2093	51	Eletz	
	<i>At the Arsenals.</i>		6	Louki	970	7	Troitska	2093	52	Tanbo	
1	In St. Petersburg	294	7	Olonetz	970	8	St. Petersburg	2093	53	Ortoff	
2	In Moscow	436	8	Woronetz	970	9	Woladimer	2093	54	Brans	
		38458	9	Oufim	970	10	Novogorod	2093	55	Kours	
			10	Kafan	970	11	Schuffelburg	2093	56	Kostof	
			11	Orenburg	970	12	Kafan	2093	57	Alexie	
	FIELD REGIMENTS.		12	Kaliwan	970	13	Siberia	2093	58	Toms	
	HORSE.		13	Siberia	970	14	Plescow	2093	59	Seleng	
	<i>Cuirassiers.</i>		14	Borifogleb	970	15	Smolensko	2093		Sum of a	
1	Life Cuirassiers	942	15	Belear	970	16	Afoph	2093		BATALLI	
2	Her Imp. Majesty's Cuirassiers	942	16	Schefchmin	970	17	Woronetz	2093		Up	
3	Third Regiment of Cuirassiers	942	17	Sergieff	970	18	Nischgorod	2093		At St. Pe	
4	Kioff Regiment	942	18	Smolensko	970	19	Czernigoff	2093		Cronft	
5	Novotroitska Regiment	942	19	Horse Militia	922	20	Refan	2093		Narva	
6	Kafan Regiment	942		Astracan	970	21	Rostoff	2093			
		5652			18382	22	Welikoluki	2093			
						23	Archangelgorod	2093			
						24	Jaroztaff	2093			
						25	Perm	2093			

[illegible]



# V. The Division of FINLAND.

Musketeers. Copoije Tobol Kabardin Moscow the First Refan Pskoff	{ Wiburg Fredrickhaven	2093 2093 2093 2093 2093	{ Carabineers of Archangel	Kesholm	942
		12558			

# VI. The Division of MOSCOW.

Musketeers. Grenadiers the 2d. Woladimer Aloph Tengink Navagink Moscow the 2d. Novogorod Archangel Shirmanik Woronez Ingria Czernigoff Neva	{ Refan Peretoff Kalkina Zoles Peretoff Borotisk Rhet Woladimer Kaluga Molal & Serpeik Belgoff Beleff Mogaik Serpuchoff Kolomna	2094 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093 2093	{ Cuirafters of Kieff Novotroika Carabineers of Ingria Siberia	{ Tula Orla Torka Wolokolamk	942 942 942 942
		27210			

## S U M M A R Y.

Divisions of	Number of Regiments.		Number of Men and Horfe.	
	Infantry.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Cavalry.
Livonia	8	5	16746	4802
Eftonia	5	2	10465	1884
Smolentko	6	3	12559	2918
St. Peterburg	8	3	16744	2826
Finland	5	1	10465	942
Moscow	13	4	27210	3768
Self	4	4	8372	3768
The Ukraine	10	12	21170	11792
Corps of				
Orenburg	1	6	2117	5820
Siberia	2	9	4186	8702
At the Advanced Posts	{	5		4866
	63	54	130034	52088

St. Elizabeth	21170	Soum Houm Charloff	Soum Zmeeff Charloff	1034 1034 1034
---------------	-------	--------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------

## The Corps of ORENBURG.

Alexieff	{ The Fortifica- tion of Zdair }	2117	{ Oufim Cafan Orenburg Shelmin Belcar Sergieff	{ Tateeff Fortificat. of Ork Troitka Verchovais Keelel Ozeru	970 970 970 970 970
		2117			5820

## The Corps of SIBERIA.

Tomik	Ufkamen-ogork	2093	{ Aloph Revel Olomit Louki Wologda Troitka Koliman Siberia Carabineers of Jakulk	{ Fortification of St. Peter and Paul }	970 970 970 970 970 970 970 970
		2093			942
Selengink	Selengink	4186			8702

## At the ADVANCED POSTS.

		Dragons. Woronez Woladimer Afracan Smolentky Militia Georgian Hussars	Welkichugack Smolentko Czarizin Smolentko Govern. Keezlar	970 970 970 922 1034
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A VIEW of the DIVISIONS and FIXED QUARTERS of the REGIMENTS of *RUSSIA*.

## VII. The Division of SEFF.

Regiments of	Fixed Quarters at	Number of Infantry.	Regiments of	Fixed Quarters at	Number of Cavalry
African Belozet Mauron Troisilka Musketeers.	Self Mittenk Reilk	2093 2093 2093 2093	Carabineers of Iweer Jobel Warka Chugroff Collacks	Breenk Karacheff Trubcheff Their Parts	942 942 942 942 942
		8372			3768

## VIII. The Division of the UKRAINE.

Musketeers.		Carabineers.	
Starokol	Achteerk	Jambourg	Prelutsky Regiment
Beleff	Gaditch	Ptkoff	Poltawa, do.
Rafh	Lubnach	Perm	Mirgorod, do.
Self	Perevolotch	Rofkoff	Starodub, do.
Eleiz	Kremenichug	Nilhgorod	Czernigoff, do.
Janhoff	Belgorod	Molcow	Kieff, do.
Orloff	Soum	Dragoons of	
Breenfk	Vawlucac	Bortioogleb	Charkoff
Kouruki	Ifoom	Achitz	Achutiz
Koffoff	Fortification of	Oftrogofch	Oftrogofch

## VI. The Division of MOSCOW.

21170	11792
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# A View of the annual Expence for the FIELD REGIMENT

## Expence of the Staff-Officers

	Salary and Amount of Rations.		Chancery and the Writers.		Adjutants, Attendants
	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.
A Field Marshal	8242	90	2106	4	2886
A General in Chief	1154	17	984	68	1225
A Lieutenant General	2531	81	265	40	389
A Major General	2097	45	145	40	137
Five Quarter-Masters General, a Lieutenant Quarter-Master, 26 Lieutenants and					

## Expence of the SIBERIA

A Lieutenant General	2430		265	40	529
A Major General	2016		290	80	314
Head Commissary at War	797	10	275	40	140
Chief Caterer	493	20	235	40	70
A Physician has <i>per Ann.</i> 709 Ro. 25 Co. A Surgeon 463 Ro. 90 Co. An u Which together v					

## Expence of the Regiment

A Regiment of	No. of Men.	Pay and Provision.		Horses, Carriages, Ammunition
		Ro.	Co.	Ro.
Cuirassiers	942	20990	91	36316
Carabineers	}	18262	51	29542
Do.		13940	93	21381
Do.		20861	60	33962
Grenadiers	2094	35226	46	15762
Musketeers	}	34473	8	15516
Do.		40303	25	18520
Do.		26393	4	14474
Smolensko Horse Militia	922	13704	48	16718
Dragoons	970	13940	93	21381

# REGIMENTS and STAFF-OFFICERS.

## Staff-Officers.

, Attendants, Servants, &c.		Total Expende of one.		Number.	Amount.		Amount of the Whole.	
Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.		Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.
2886	79	13235	73	3			39707	19
1225	22	6364	7	8			50912	56
389	94	3187	15	20			63743	
137	18	2380	3	51			121381	
enants and Attendants, each		7945	2	2			15890	
							291634	28

## R I A Staff-Officers.

529	5	3224	45	1	3224	45
314	50	2691	30	2	5382	60
140		1212	50	1	1212	50
70		798	60	1	798	60
Co. An under Surgeon has		273	90	3	1187	15
together with 40 Ro. allowed for Charges make }						

11805 30

## Regiments.

Carriages, Clothing, and Ammunition.		Total Expende of one Regiment.		Nº. of Regiments.	Amount.	
Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.		Ro.	Co.
36316	64	57307	55	6	343845	30
29542	71	47805	22	12	573662	64
21381	89	35322	82	6	211936	92
33962	36	54823	96	1	54823	96
15762	70	50989	16	4	203956	8
15516	40	49989	48	46	2299516	8
18520	40	58825	65	2	117651	30
14474	79	40867	83	11	449546	13
16718	69	30423	17	1	30423	17
21381	89	35322	82	18	635810	76

4921172 90

Ro. 5224612 48

# A View of the Animal Kingdom

Mammalia		Birds		Reptiles		Amphibians		Fishes	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

# The present STATE of the RUSSIAN NAVY, 1766.

Rate.	Ships Names.	Year when Built.	Station.	Officers Ranks.	Officers Names.	Number.		Salary per Ann.
						by Regu-lation.	Employ-ed.	
100	St. Demetrius Rostofsky	1758	Cron- stadt.	High Admiral	The Great Duke	1	1	6000 Roubles
80	St. John Ztatouft	1751		Admirals	Mordwinoff	2	1	3600
80	St. Nicholas	1754		Vice Admirals	Spiridoff and Nagaieff	2	2	2400 each
80	St. Paul	1755		Rear Admirals	Anderfon, 1 Vacant	3	2	1800 each
80	St. Andrew	1758		Rear Admiral of the Gallies	Sinavin	1	1	1800
80	Kir John	1762		Captains of 1st Rank		20	16	600 each
80	St. Catherine	1762		Ditto of 2d Rank		12	12	420 do.
66	Natalia	1754		Captain Lieutenants		52	42	300 do.
66	Pultawa	1754		Lieutenants		97	93	180 do.
66	Revel	1756		Second Lieutenants		13	13	150 do.
66	Severnoy Ortoff, or Northern Eagle	1763		Midshipmen		180	94	120 do.
66	Netrogmena, or Noli me tangere	1763		Skippers of 1st Rank		20	20	180 do.
66	Twer	1765		Ditto of 2d Rank		20	19	120 do.
66	Saratoff	1765		Commissaries		31	31	11 able Seamen
66	Three Fathers	1766		Under Officers and Seamen (*)		13700	6000	7½ ordinary do.
66	Three Saints	1766		4 Battallions of Marines		4852	2400	
54	Gorod Archangel	1761		Servants of all kinds allowed to				
54	Neptune	1758		the Officers		1200	1200	
32	Ruffia	1754		Corps of Sea Cadetts		765		
32	St. Michael	1758		Galley Men		2722	1600	
32	St. Sergius	1761						
32	St. Fedor	1762						
32	Nadeshda, or Hope	1763						
32	Gremaschi, or Thunderer	1763						
32	Blagopoluchy, or Good Reception	1764						
80	St. Clement	1758	Revel.					
66	Raphael	1758						
66	St. Jacob	1761						
66	Moscow	1760						
66	St. Januarius	1763						
66	St. Eustacius	1763						
N <sup>o</sup> of Guns	1916							
	Three Bomb Vessels Seven Ketches Gallies, &c. &c.							
Total								
						23693	11547	

(\*) Of these there are usually two thousand sick in the Hospitals.

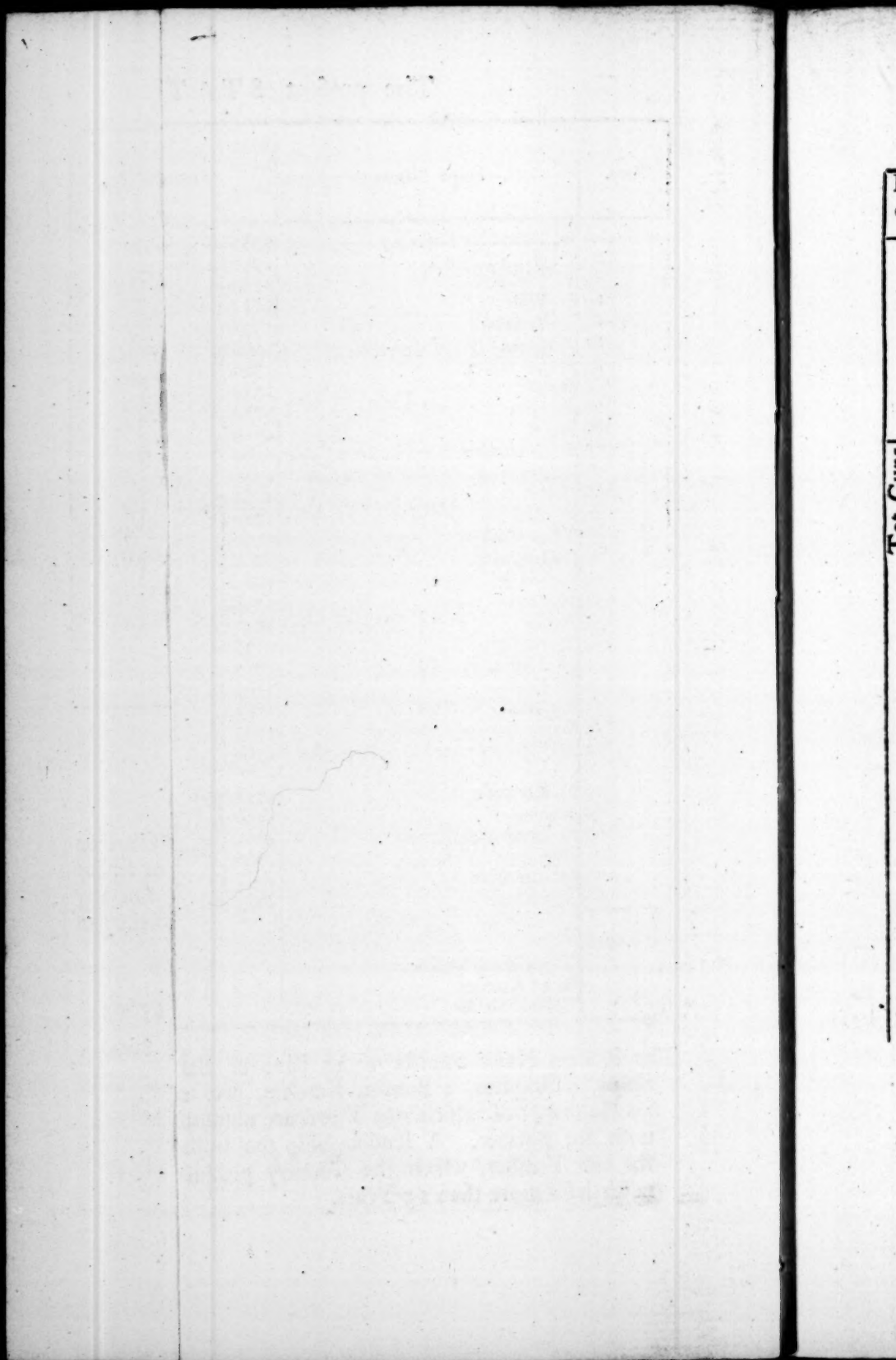
N. B. Tho' the Complement of Sailors ought to amount to near fourteen thousand Men, yet there are feldom more than five thousand ready or fit for Service, and of these perhaps not one half have ever been at Sea. On any Emergency they put Land Troops on Board, to fill up the Deficiency of Seamen.

If we add to the above Number  
The Carpenters, Smiths, Ropemakers, Sail-makers, Porters, } 23693  
&c. by Regulation, amounting to } 8000

The whole Number under the Admiralty Direction ought to be 31693

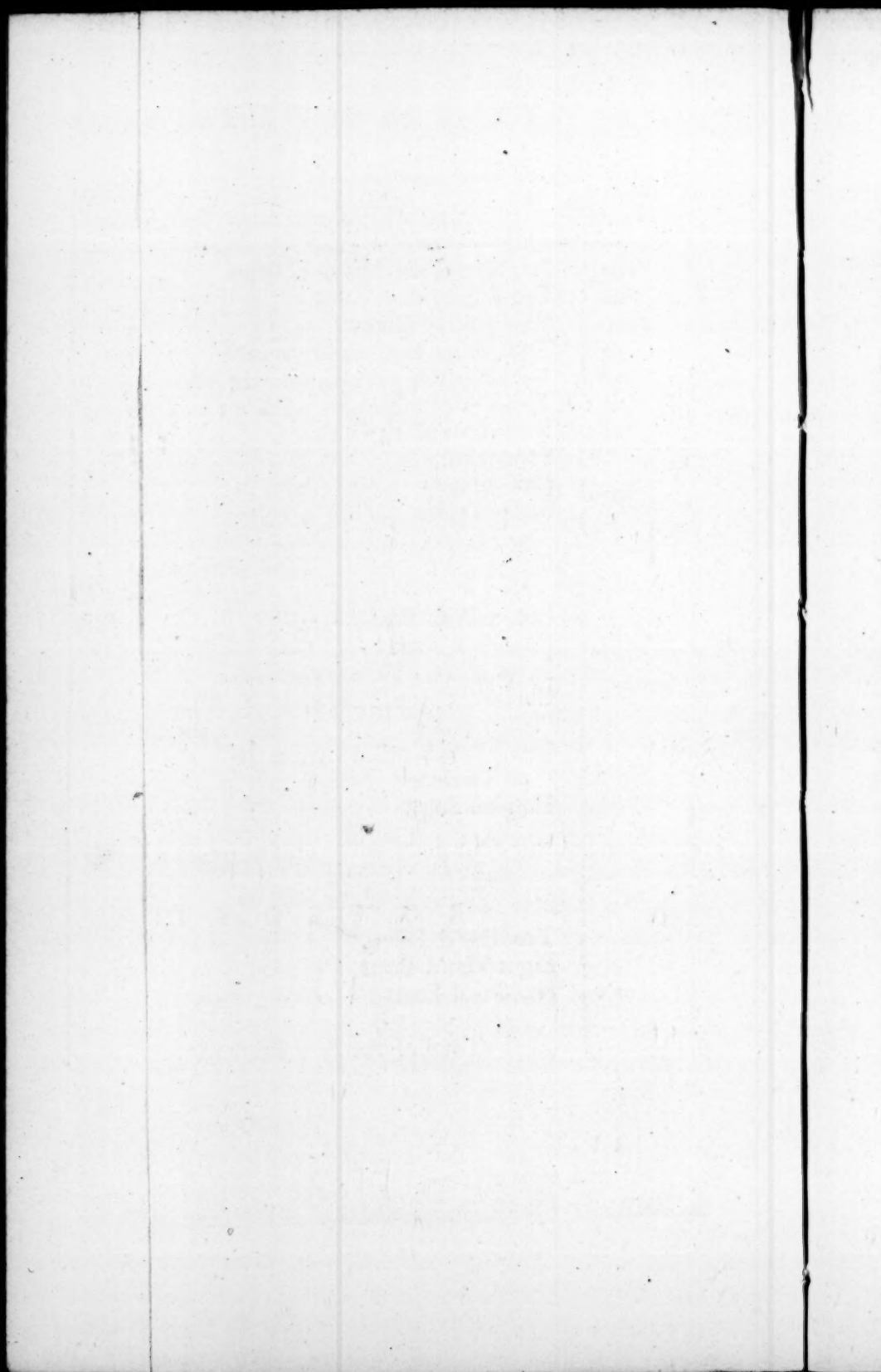
Actually employed only 16547

The Russian Navy consists of 22 Line of Battle Ships, 9 Frigates, 3 Bombs, Ketches, &c. and 50 Gallies; of which one Third are absolutely unfit for Service. A Russian Ship tho' built of the best Timber, which the Country produces, never lasts more than 15 Years.









tion, and marks at the same time the present deficiencies; the other is a state of the Russian navy, as it stood at the death of Peter the first, in 1725.

Russia has now no fleet, except at Cronstadt and Revel in the Baltic. Of all the different dock-yards founded by Peter the first, there only now remain those of Petersbourg and Archangel. Russia has not a single ship of war on the Caspian, and by the treaty of 1739, she is interdicted from navigating on the Palus Mæotis, and the Black Sea.

On the whole, the Russian marine is far inferior in every respect to that of Sweden, or of Denmark; and indeed, whether considered comparatively, or by itself, is extremely insignificant. For my part, I am persuaded from what I have observed myself, joined to very good information, that a dozen English line of battle ships, would be an overmatch for all the naval force of the Russian empire. However they have such resources that by proper attention and management their marine may grow considerable, may be rendered even respectable, but never can become formidable in British eyes.

A com-

A comparative VIEW of the FORCES

The British army complete ought to amount to about — — — — —	45,000
The British navy (marines included) ought to amount to — — — — —	16,000
	<u>61,000</u>
Which increased by the supposed population (males only) of Great Britain and Ireland, exclusive of the colonies — —	5,000,000
	<u>5,061,000</u>
Hence it follows, that the number of troops actually employed in the land and sea service, make an 84th part of the whole male population of Great Britain and Ireland, exclusive of the colonies, which I do not reckon, for the same reason that I have not reckoned (in the opposite estimate) the conquered and dependent provinces of Russia.	
The total yearly expences of the British army and navy, &c. amount to about - £.	<u>3,000,000</u>

of Great Britain and Russia, 1766.

The Russian army of regulars ought to amount to — — — —	331,760	Officers and Soldiers.
But deducting the number now wanting to complete it, <i>i. e.</i> — — — —	50,000	
It amount only to	281,760	
The Russian navy ought to consist of, officers, sailors, and workmen, included — — — — 31,693		
But, at present, does not really consist of more than — — — — 16,547		
Which being added to the army - - -	16,547	
Make the whole of the army and navy to be — — — —	298,307	
Which increased by the supposed population of Russia (males only) which is -	8,000,000	
Total is	8,298,307	Males.
Hence it follows, that the number of regulars actually employed in the land and sea service, make a 27th part of the whole male population of Russia, properly so called, exclusive of the conquered provinces, the Ukraine, the Tartars, &c.		
	Roubles.	Pounds Sterl.
The total yearly expence of the army does not exceed (a) — — — —	7,000,000	1,400,000
The total yearly expence of the navy does not exceed — — — —	1,000,000	200,000
Total yearly expence of the Russian army and navy — — — —	8,000,000	1,600,000
(a) Guards and Artillery - - Ro. 1,000,000		
The other Troops - - - - 6,000,000		
7,000,000		



VIEW of the RUSSIAN FORCES by Land  
and Sea, in 1761.

The Russian army, being then nearly complete, amounted to — — — Of which 150,000 were on foreign service in Germany.	380,000	Officers and Soldiers.
The Russian navy, being then nearly complete, amounted to — — — —	30,000	
	410,000	
Which being increased by the supposed population of Russia (males only) as in the preceding estimate — — —	8,000,000	
Total is	8,410,000	Males.
So that Russia then employed in her land and sea service, the 20th part of her male population.		
The whole expences of the army and navy (every incidental charge included) amounted only to — — —	Roubles. 11,000,000	Pounds. 2,100,000
CHAP.		

C H A P. XI.

*Resources of RUSSIA.*

**A**S I have already mentioned in the beginning of this discourse, the happiness of Russia in point of situation, I shall not here repeat it, but proceed to mention her other advantages and resources.

1. It is very certain that in most provinces of the empire, the poll-tax might be doubled without burdening the subject, in any degree equal to the load he bears in England, France, or Holland. Thus one capital branch only of the revenue, being an eighth of the whole, might easily be increased to twice its present value, and would come net into the public treasury, without costing the government or the people a shilling extraordinary, for extraordinary collection.

2. Many of the other taxes might be greatly increased, particularly if the industry of the people was awakened and properly directed. I am persuaded from the  
perusal

perusal of authentic documents, and from the information of very intelligent persons, that by the encouragement of honest labor, and by the introduction of arts and manufactures homogeneous to the climate, and to the nature of the inhabitants, the national wealth might be increased to an incredible degree.

3. Notwithstanding the rigor of the climate in the northern parts, the soil is in general so wonderfully fertile, and the seasons of sowing and reaping so equal, that in Russia a bad harvest is very rare. But were a dearth of corn to happen, or even a mortality among the cattle, such misfortunes here, would be less felt than in other countries, on account of the prodigious quantities of fish in the rivers, and of the immense varieties of game in their forests.

If agriculture (which is now in the most rude and imperfect state here) was practised and increased, as it might easily be, such is the richness of the ground, the cheapness of labor, and the convenience of transport, that a quantity of corn (over and above the national consumption) might easily be raised and exported, not only equal to the demands of all the neigh-

neighboring states, but sufficient to supply every casual deficiency in the other markets of Europe.

4. By a proper attention to the inland, and particularly the Asiatic trade, the old branches of the Russian traffic might be greatly improved, and many new ones be struck out; so that not only the chief commerce of China and Japan might be diverted from its present channel, but a very considerable part of the east India, Persia and Turkey goods, might be brought to the markets, thro' the medium of a Russian transit.

5. The whale and seal fishery, lying at the very doors of Russia, and capable of being carried on with greater ease, and at a much less expence, than by any other nation, might prove a mine of inexhaustible riches to this empire.

6. By the proper management and working of the mines, I have been assured, from incontestible authority, that in a very short time, four times the present produce might be drawn from them, and

K

that

that in a very few years, they might be augmented an hundred fold.

7. The ornaments of the churches and convents are prodigiously rich ; an incredible quantity of silver and gold, and precious stones, being employed in framing, setting, and decorating the pictures of the Divinity, of the Virgin, and of the various saints which constitute the mythology of the Russian church. These might prove a very great resource in time of necessity ; as might also the plate and jewels of private persons, which in this country are immensely numerous and valuable.

These are among the many resources of Russia which have fallen under my observation ; but it would require, perhaps, several centuries, another form of government, and another genius and character created by that government, to accomplish what I have here alluded to.



## C H A P. XII.

*Of the Manufactures and Commerce of*  
R U S S I A.

HAVING mentioned in the preceding Section the resources which Russia might find in herself, with such advantages as she *might* certainly possess ; I shall now proceed to give an account of those which she really does enjoy.

They principally consist in her manufactures and commerce, both which, tho' by no means improved or extended to that perfection of which they are capable, are nevertheless very great, and the sources of vast wealth to this empire.

With regard to manufactures : Russia <sup>Manufac-</sup> differs from most other countries, for <sup>tures.</sup> here a manufactory includes from the raw material to the last finishing almost every process and part of the work, which in England, France, &c. require and are performed by a variety of different trades, different professions, and in different places. Thus, for instance, the silk manu-

facturers purchase the material raw, boil, dye, throw, wind, weave, and press it. A linen manufacturer in the same manner, has the yarn spun at home, or buys it brown, boils, whitens, winds, weaves, bleaches, and laps it : Nay, it often happens, that the looms, wheels, reels, tools, and instruments of the manufactory are all made within the building.

Here follows a list of the principal manufactories, that have been established under Alexis, Peter, and their successors, most of which having received pecuniary assistance from the crown, are specially under its protection, and cognizable only by the College of manufactures.

- 50 Silk manufactories, for velvets, paduasoyes, tabbies, armazeens, &c.
- 1 Silk stocking ditto.
- 4 Silk twisting for gold and silver lace only.
- 7 Manufactories for raising silk from the worm.
- 40 Woollen-cloth manufactories.
- 2 Kersey, ditto.
- 51 Linen, ditto.

7 Salt-

- 7 Sail-cloth, ditto.
- 2 For making and printing chintz and callico.
- 27 Rope-walks.
- 19 Paper-mills.
  - 1 Manufactory of paper hangings.
  - 1 Ditto, of waxed and oiled cloth.
- 34 Tanneries.
- 19 Glafs-works.
  - 3 Sugar-works.
- 17 Manufactories of colours and dye's.
  - 7 Ditto, of Copperas.
  - 5 Ditto, of sealing-wax.
  - 5 Ditto, of gold and silver lace.
  - 6 Ditto, of tinsel.
  - 2 Ditto, of gold-beating, and gold and silver wire-drawing.
  - 2 Ditto, of brafs and iron wire.
  - 8 Ditto, of playing cards.
  - 1 Ditto, of needles.
- 14 Ditto, of hats.
- 6 Ditto, of wax-bleaching.
- 3 Ditto, of earthen ware or china.
- 1 Ditto, of fine tapestry. And
- 20 Others of less consequence,

It appears from the report of the Manufactory College to the senate, that 37,862 peasants or slaves (being the number

ber then belonging to the above manufactories) tho' they worked but half the year, had manufactured in 1763 various goods, which when brought to market sold for 3,204,448 roubles, or £801,112 sterling.

Besides the above manufactories, there are prodigious iron and copper-works in Siberia, several cannon and bell-founderies, armories for the making of muskets, swords, sabres, and all the furniture and accoutrements necessary for the military service. Not having been able to get any account of these drawn to the same degree of exactness as the others, I must content myself with barely mentioning them; some idea, however, may be formed of the iron-works, when we consider that in 1765, there were exported from St. Peterbourg to Great Britain only, upwards of 1,500,000 poods of iron, which makes near 24,000 English ton.

Commerce The commerce of Russia is, with regard to herself, a passive commerce; that is to say, the bulk of her products and manufactures is exported not in her own shipping, but in the shipping of foreign nations.

The

The whole shipping of Russia, properly so called, employed in foreign trade, does not amount to two thousand tons, including her barks on the Caspian, and her coasters in the Baltic; and the whole of her exports in her own bottoms does not amount to twenty thousand pounds sterling *per annum*..

I. GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND  
export to Russia,

Cloth, shalloons, woollen and mixed stuffs, flannels, pewter, tin, lead, ale, porter, Carolina indigo, beaver skins, sugar, mahogany ware, mahogany plank, clocks, watches, earthen ware, &c. &c.

Import, from Russia,  
Iron, clean hemp, clean flax, linens, manufactures, bristles, isinglass, rhubarb, furs, &c.

II. HOLLAND exports to Russia,  
Cloth, indigo, sugars, spices, logwood, herrings, tobacco, &c. &c.

Imports, from Russia,  
Iron, clean and outshott hemp, hemp and flax combings, linens, manufactures, tar, pitch, hides, bristles, furs, tallow, &c.



III FRANCE, in Holland and Hambourgh ships, exports to Russia, Wine, brandy, sugar, indico, coffee, silk and mixed stuffs, cambrick, muslin, gallantries, &c. &c. &c.

Imports, from Russia,  
Hemp of all sorts, iron, timber in masts, balks and deals, &c.

IV. HAMBOURG, exports to Russia, Refined sugars, camblets, mixed stuffs, and toys, &c. &c.

Imports from Russia,  
Hemp oil, train oil, manufactures, wax, furs, corn, hemp, &c.

V. LUBECK, ROSTOCK, SAXON, PRUSSIAN, and AUSTRIAN Dominions, export to Russia, German cloth, sundry sorts of mixed stuffs, porcelain, Dantzick waters, mineral waters, toys, gallantries, apples, pears, &c.

Imports, from Russia,  
Hides, tallow, hemp and train oil, wax and tallow candles, soap, a small quantity of manufactures, linens, honey, furs, of all sorts, corn, &c.

VI.

VI. DENMARK exports to Russia,  
Pepper, spelter, pearls, sugar, cinnamon,  
China, &c. And

Imports, from Russia,  
Hemp, saltpetre, gunpowder, copper, a  
few manufactures, corn, cordage, &c.

VII. SWEDEN, exports to Russia,  
Allum, herrings, scythes, &c. &c.

Imports from Russia,  
Hemp, tallow, fish, oil of all sorts, ho-  
ney, corn, &c.

VIII. ITALY, exports to Russia,  
Sweet oil, velvet, raw silk, &c. &c.

Imports, from Russia,  
Hides, wax, caviar, and a small quantity  
of honey, manufactures, linens, &c.

IX. SPAIN, in Holland and Lubeck  
ships, exports to Russia,  
Seville oil, oranges, lemons, raisins, al-  
mons, currans, capers, Ivica salt, tobacco,  
snuff, &c. &c.

Imports from Russia,  
Iron, hemp, chiefly the second and third  
sorts, timber in masts, barks, deals, &c.

The

The trade of Russia with Asia is now very inconsiderable, in comparison of what it formerly was, and of what it might now be, if proper attention was paid to it,

The different articles of traffic being very particularly specified in the following pages, (No. V.) it is unnecessary to anticipate the reader by mentioning them here. I shall therefore only give a short account of those places at which Russia carries on her trade with Asia.

**TEMERNICK**, in the Government of Veronitz;

Is the port of Czerkaski, the capital of the Don-Cossacks, and lies between that city and Azoph.

A company was formed in 1758, for carrying on this trade in Turkish or Tartar vessels, from Temernick to the countries lying on the borders of the Palus Mæotis and the Black Sea, and prodigious dividends were made in the capital stock, not less than *cent. per cent.* as I have been informed. The company however laboured under very considerable disadvantages; because being restrained by the treaty of 1739, from having ships on those

those seas, they were at the mercy of the Turks and Tartars, whose vessels they were obliged to freight. They were on the point of obtaining a permission to employ their own ships, upon condition that they took out a Turkish passport, and gave security that their vessels should not exceed a particular size ; that they should mount no guns, and carry only a certain number of hands : but unfortunately for the affairs of this company, the Revolution of that year put a period to their expectations ; as the present Empress, deceived by false representations, precipitately abolished all companies and private monopolies whatsoever. This one fell of course, and with it vanished the prospect of establishing a great commercial power on that side. There is, however, a small trade still carried on there, a view of which is given hereafter in No. V.

#### ASTRACAN, on the Volga,

About 40 miles from the discharge of that river into the Caspian, was formerly the great mart for the Persia trade and was during a considerable time a very opulent and flourishing city. It is now  
much

much decayed, owing to the troubles in Persia, and to the astonishing negligence of the Russian government in their Asiatic concerns.

**ORENBURG and TROITSKA,**

Are two towns on the borders of the step or desert, which separates Russia from Bucharia. The trade now carried on there, tho' at present inconsiderable, might be very easily increased to a prodigious amount.

**KIACHTA, in the government of Irkutski,**

Is the last town on the Russian frontiers towards China. There the little trade which still subsists, between the two empires is carried on. Formerly this commerce was managed by caravans regularly sent from Mosco to China, every three years, and the profits upon it were very great.

But on account of a dispute concerning the boundaries, it has been in a great measure interrupted for several years past. No caravans have been sent to China since the year 1756, so that whatever intercourse of commodities now remains, is entirely



entirely in the hands of private adventurers, at their own risk, and who tho' unavowed by the Russian government, yet are obliged to pay customs for every article which they export to, or import from China.

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HAVING taken uncommon pains to inform myself of the real state of the commerce of Russia, I flatter myself the following tables into which my documents are digested, will prove exact and satisfactory.

I have divided them into nine numbers, each of which I shall here give a particular explanation of.

No. I. *A View of the Export Trade from*  
ST. PETERSBURG to GREAT BRITAIN  
*and IRELAND, from Anno 1755 to 1756*  
*included.*

This table is divided into 36 columns, in the first of which to the right, is specified the several years, in the first to the left, the amount of the goods, in the second to the left, the number of ships, and the intermediate columns contain the quantities

quantities and qualities of the various kinds of goods exported.

Here it must be remarked, that an idea of the progress of the exports in the respective years, cannot be so well formed from the amounts, as from the qualities of the goods; because the prices thereof since *anno* 1755 have increased more than one third.

No. II. *General Exports and Imports from  
and to ST. PETERSBURG, RIGA,  
ARCHANGEL and NARVA for five  
years.*

This table is divided perpendicularly into six, and horizontally into four parts; The perpendicular divisions are, 1st. That to the right, in which the several parts of Europe trading to and from Russia are specified, and the other five contain the amount of the imports and exports, from and to those parts for five years, from 1762 to 1766. The four horizontal divisions are, first, that of St. Petersburg, secondly, that of Riga, thirdly, that of Archangel, and fourthly, that of Narva. These several divisions will direct the eye to the amounts in the respective years,  
of

of the whole trade of each port, against each of which is wrote the word total.

No. III. *A View of the Exports from*  
ONEGA by Mr. WILLIAM GOMM.

This table shews the export-trade from Onega for four years, *i. e.* from 1763 to 1766 included. It is methodized like that of No. I. except that in the fourth and fifth columns from the left to right, is shewn the number separately of his own ships, and of freighted ships, which sailed from Onega in the respective years.

No. IV. *A General View of the Amount of*  
*the Commerce of RUSSIA with EUROPE.*

This Table is a fummary of all the preceding, and is divided perpendicularly into seven columns, five whereof, from right to left, are subdivided each into six columns. In the first column are specified the severall parts of Europe trading to and from Russia, the second column shews the particular ports, as St. Petersburg, Riga, Archangel, &c. from and to which, the exports and imports were

were made. The subdivided columns are, 1st. that in which is inserted the ratio that the exports of one place bear to those of another ; in the 2d, the amount of the exports of the several places ; in the 3d, the ratio which the several imports of the respective places bear to each other ; in the 4th, the amount of the imports to Russia from the respective places ; and in the 5th and 6th, the difference of exports and imports, or balance of trade between Russia in general, and her several ports in particular, and the respective places which trade with her. The amounts of the exports and imports, as also of the balance of trade of those parts of Europe which trade to two or more ports of Russia, are inclosed by red lines, as are likewise the general amounts and balances. These general amounts of exports and imports, are supposed to be divided into 1000 parts, as shewn by the figures at the bottom of the column of ratio, and the figures placed opposite to the amounts of exports and imports of of particular places, are so many parts of those 1000, or shew what proportion the trade of each place bears to the whole, and reciprocally to that of each other.

No. V.

No. V. From page 1 to 20 contains particulars of the export and import-trade from and to Asia, at Temernick, Astracan, Troitka, Orenburg and Kiachta.

No. VI. *A General View of the Amount of the Commerce of RUSSIA with ASIA.*

This table is a summary of the preceding particulars No. V. with an addition of the amount of the trade between Armenia and Russia only, which consists chiefly in precious stones and silks imported, and furs, &c. exported. It is methodized like that of No. IV. except that on account of the small amount, and small number of places with which the trade is carried on, the ratio is not annexed. The total amounts and balances are distinguished by figures inclosed within red lines.

L

No. VII.



No. VII. *A General View of the Tonnage  
of European Ships trading to and from  
RUSSIA for the last 3 years.*

This table is divided perpendicularly into six columns, three of which from left to right, are each subdivided into three others. The first column from right to left, shews the several places to which the ships belong, the 2d. The places of their destination from Russia, and the 3d. The several ports of Russia, from whence the ships sailed. The first subdivision of the fourth column, shews the number of ships, the 2d. their Tonnage, and the 3d. the tonnage of each ship at a medium. The general amount is indicated by figures inclosed within red lines, and the particular amount of every place, by the word *amount* inclosed in the same manner.

No. VIII. *Lists of Exports, Tonnage, &c.  
from the Ports of WYBURG and FRED-  
RICKSHAVEN for the Year 1766.*

As most part of these exports is for Swedish account, it was not thought proper

per to let them interfere with the general table of the Russian trade, No. IV.

No. IX. *List of the Ships which sailed from ST. PETERSBURG Anno 1766, navigated wholly or partly by Russian Subjects, with a View of the Exports by them.*

By this table, from the right in the 1st. column is shewn the destination of the ships, in the 2d. their number, in the 3d. and 4th. by whom navigated, with the proportion of the Russians and foreigners. In the 1st. column from the left is specified the tonnage, and in the intermediate spaces, the quantities and qualities of the several sorts of goods, the amount whereof is noted in one sum.

*Of Arts and Sciences.*

A writer could scarcely be thought serious who professed to treat of the arts and sciences of an empire in which there is no university, at least none which resembles the seminaries of that appellation thro' the rest of Europe. A regular process of study and fixed gradations in the attainment of learned professions are matters unknown among the Russians.

However, I shall speak of their literature as it is; the account may perhaps turn to their glory in a future day, if ever they should break through the clouds of barbarism and arrive at eminence in arts and sciences.

There is at Mosco a school which is dignified with the name of an university, but misnomers of this kind are not infrequent in Russia. --- Into this school persons are admitted at any age and without any preparation. The masters are called professors tho' they do not attain to that rank by any extraordinary excellence or proficiency in learning.

They are usually persons invited from foreign universities by the sovereign who  
nominates

nominates them without their passing thro' any regular examination.

For the education of land and sea officers there are two establishments, one for the land cadets, the other for the sea cadets, both extremely defective and ill calculated to answer their respective purposes.

An academy of arts has been lately instituted at St. Peterbourg, to which belong a number of professors in architecture, sculpture, and painting. These professors are all foreigners, and seldom of the first eminence; for an artist of distinguished talents would scarcely abandon his own country for any establishment he could obtain in Russia.

The scholars in this academy are chosen from among such children of the priests, the foldiers and the burghers, as are esteemed by the professors to be the most promising and ingenious. The code of their education which is *published by authority*, one can scarcely read with a serious countenance. They are first directed to instruct themselves *fundamentally* in such points as are supposed to be principally essential and useful to the different

branches of art, to which they particularly dedicate themselves, after which they are enjoined to acquire *a knowledge* of history, chronology, physics, metaphysics, &c. &c. by special order *tout en abrégé*, such is the precise expression of the code.

There is also an academy of sciences at St. Petersburg, which was instituted by Peter the first. The learned members of this society have published twenty or thirty folios of their scientific labors.

They have an extensive museum which contains few articles of much value. Among others which they have thought worthy to be preserved, I took notice of a Siberian wizzard's drum, some Chinese toys, the skeleton of Peter the great's horse, and two stuffed elephants.

Tho' they have had some learned German professors, few have continued long among them. Those who have staid either found their faculties benumbed or lost the ambition of excelling, insomuch that there remains no monument of their boasted abilities, except the abovementioned commentaries, which are a pompous farrago of trifling discoveries written without taste, with very little judgment, but in very good Latin.

The



The famous Euler had been a professor in the academy twenty years since, but quitted it on the late Empreſſes's appointing count R - - - to the presidency of it, at a time when he could ſcarcely read or write.

The preſent Empreſs ſenſible of Euler's merit and deſirous of making him reparation for the indignity he formerly ſuffered, has by her princely munificence induced him to return to the academy, and reſume the mathematical chair: but as he is now far advanced in years and almoſt blind, there is little to be expected from his knowledge or activity.

I cannot conclude this article without obſerving that the Ruſſians have of late made a conſiderable progreſs in poetry. Their language ſeems exquisitely adapted to it, being concise, nervous, muſical and flowing. The inflexions are innumerable, the uſe of auxiliary verbs rare, the tenſes and declenſions infinitely varied, and compounds and decompounds to be formed *ad libitum* without ſtiffening the language or diminiſhing its graces.

It does not appear that they had any poetry except of the most vulgar kind till within these few years. It is curious to remark that the first Russian poet, whom we have heard of, I mean prince Cantemir, was the son of a foreigner, the hospodar of Moldavia. Two very extraordinary geniuses have since appeared, Lomonosoff and Soumarakoff, the latter of whom is still living. They seem to have refined and fixed the Russian poetry as an art. The first has written an ode in which there are many very sublime passages, the latter has composed several dramatic pieces which have infinite merit. I have seen with great pleasure Hamlet and Merope imitated from the originals, and happily adapted to the Russian theatre. He has also produced two tragedies founded upon incidents in the Russian history, which are much admired. To this I must add that he has regulated the Russian stage and brought it to a state of as much decency, order, and magnificence as most others in Europe.

Besides the Russian theatre, there is a French comedy, a German comedy and  
an

an Italian Opera at St. Petersbourg, all maintained at the expence of the Empress.

When I mention that at present there are but three printing presses in Russia, two at St. Petersbourg and one at Mosco, and these under the Imperial licence, it will be obvious that the number of original books in the Russian language must be very small. They are few indeed and of little value. The ancient books are chiefly in theology, being mostly commentaries on the Greek fathers, legends of saints, and directions for the ceremonial of the church.

The modern are principally translations from the English, French and German writers, ill selected and as ill translated.

*An account of the Russian mines belonging to the crown.*

Since the beginning of working the gold and silver mines of Nertzinsky and Catherinburg, also the 57 copper and 129 iron mines, the profits arising to the crown (including the tenths (\*) on the produce of the mines of private persons) were, after paying the 191670 workmen employed in them, viz.

From <i>anno</i> 1628 to 1719, that is	
91 years - - - - -	31700
From <i>anno</i> 1719 to 1765, that is	
46 years - - - - -	7781300
	<hr/> Ro. 7815000

Which at a medium would produce annually,

In the 91 years, each	Ro. 348 : 30
In the 46 years, each	169202 : 18

(\*) Tenths, that is a duty imposed by the crown on every 10 Pood of the produce of all the mines of private persons.

As 20 copecks, for 10 pood on iron.  
— 70 copecks, for 10 pood on copper.

But

But as they have increased prodigiously of late years, we shall lay no stress upon the medium annual produce, but content ourselves with shewing their clear produce in the year 1765.

According to the most exact computations (all possible charges in the mint, and elsewhere included, as also the payment of ten thousand soldiers on the frontiers, to guard the mines) gold stands the crown in 90½ copecks, and silver in 7 copecks *per* zollotnick : and the crown disposes of the gold with a clear gain of 280 *per cent.* and of the silver with a clear gain of 254 *per cent.*

The gold mine of Catherinburg is extremely promising. The quantity of ore raised in the year 1765, after being well cleansed and beaten, and purified by only three operations of fire, produced 7 poods 24 pounds of pure gold, which at the rate of 90½ copecks a zollotnick, makes 26320 Ro. 51 Co. being the sum which that quantity cost the crown, on which 280 *per cent.* being taken, will give the annual clear gain on the produce of this mine, viz. 73697 Ro. 43 Co.

The mines at Nertzinsky, by reason of the inclemency of the climate, are very difficult



difficult to be worked, and this difficulty is the greater, as the miners appropriated to this labour are but 7000 in number, most of which live at a considerable distance from the place, and are obliged to send thirty versts for their firing.

These mines produce 14000 poods of lead, from every pood of which, are extracted 2 zollotnicks of silver; so that from 14000 poods of lead, as above-mentioned, are extracted 300 poods of silver. The lead costs on the spot 70 copecks; but at Kalawan, where it is always transported, in order to be used for extracting the silver from the copper ore, it stands in 280 copecks a pood. In finding, therefore, the annual clear gain arising from these mines, we confine ourselves to the silver, and shall consider the lead, when we treat of those of Kalawan.

The above-mentioned quantity of 300 pood of silver, at the price of 7 copecks *per* zollotnick, stands the crown in 80640 Ro. on which sum, allowing 254 *per cent.* we see the annual clear gain of Nertzinsky mines to be 205825 Ro.

The

The principal and most profitable mines in the world, are those of Kalawan-Wolkresensky; they were discovered *anno* 1723, and given in 1726 as copper mines, to Demeedoff, who industriously worked them, found that they contained much silver, but concealed it; wherefore, *anno* 1744, he was deprived of them; the year following, they produced 40 pood; in 1746, 70 pood; in 1747, 106 pood; and in 1765, 575 pood 10 pound; from every pood of this silver, was extracted 11 pound of gold, whence the whole quantity extracted, amounts to 17 pood, 39½ pound. There are at these mines 43500 workmen; the ore is mixt with copper, and to separate it, the crown (as before-mentioned) transports the lead from Nertzinsky, where on arrival it stands in 280 copecks a pood; there are large quantities of copper, but as yet it lies uselefs, being very much mixed with antimony and arfenick; the ore is brittle, and requires much heat, so that they are obliged to pass it through the fire, 5, 7, 10, and sometimes 20 to 30 times, before they can extract the gold and silver out of it. 575 pood 10 pound of silver, as before-mentioned, at 7 copecks a zollotnick

nick, is 154627 Ro. on which  
 is 254 *per cent.* - - - - 392753  
 And 17 pood, 39 $\frac{1}{16}$  pound gold,  
 at 90 $\frac{1}{4}$  copecks a zollotnick, is  
 62299 Ro. on which sum 280  
*per cent.* is - - - - 174438

---

567,191

Now the Nertzinsky lead having  
 cost the crown 280 co. a pood at  
 Kalawan, and the whole 14000  
 pood being there consumed in  
 extracting the silver from the cop-  
 per ore, the amount, must be  
 considered as a charge on these  
 mines, and consequently deduct-  
 ed from their produce, thus  
 14000 pood of lead at 280 co.  
 each is - - - - 39200

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Remains the clear gain - Ro. 527991  
*per annum* on the mines of the Kalawan  
 Wolskrefensky.

The annual profits from these mines  
 will be much more in a few years than  
 they are at present, great malversation  
 having been discovered at Nertzinsky,  
 which has impeded the progress of the  
 mines,

mines, but measures have lately been taken to prevent it for the future. When the copper is purified the revenue will increase by 50,000 roubles *per ann.*

In the mountains of Caucasus, on the borders of the Persian, Turkish, and Russian dominions, prodigiously rich silver mines have been discovered, and much lead ore, the worst sort whereof renders 2 pound, and the best 7 to 7½ pound of silver a pood, and deliberations are now holding how to make advantage of this discovery.

By the most exact computations of the copper and iron produce from all the mines it is found on a medium, that including carriage, copper costs the crown at Petersburg 290 co. to 3 ro. *per pood*  
iron 27 co. *per pood*

but that the iron of Blagodats, whereof 500,000 pood is this year and yearly expected will cost the crown at Petersburg but 23½ co. *per pood*.

In the year 1763 the Kalawan mines produced 499 pood 24 and ½ pound of silver, and 18 pood 14 pounds of gold.

**S**UMMARY of the foregoing account, shewing the annual profits arising to the crown from the several gold and silver mines.

The gold mine of Catherinburg	73697:43
The silver mine of Nertzinsky	205825:00
The gold and silver mines of Kalawan-Wolkresensky	<u>527991:00</u>

Clear gains from the above mines - - - Ro. 807513:43

And as the Blagodats Iron will sell in St. Petersburg at 72 co. per pood

and it costs the crown 23½

difference in

price is 49½ co.

Wherefore the clear gain annually on this 500000 pood is at 49½ co. a pood

248750:00

Total clear gains on all the mines belonging to the crown

Ro. 1056263:43

OBSER-



A VIEW of the COINAGE

G O L D.				S I L V E R		
Coined from Anno	Names of the Coins.	Number	Value.		Coined from Anno	Names of the Coins.
			Ro.	Co.		
1701 to 1730	Ducats	35410	79,672	50	1664 to 1681	Roubles
1724 to 1751	ditto	142705	321,086	25	1681 to 1898	Small Pieces
	Double ditto	600	2,700		1698 to 1718	Ditto
	ditto	1680	7,560		1718 to 1731	Large Pieces
1718 to 1730	St. Andrew's, ditto	386061	772,122		1713 to 1719	Pieces of 5 a
1751 to the	Ducats	44574	100,291	50		3 Copecks, a
28 June 1762	ditto	130722	294,124	50		round Copeck
1755 to the	Imperials	78343	783,430		In 1726	Griveners
	Half Imperials	53006	265,030		In 1757 coined for, and sent to Livonia and Estonia	Livonian Roub
	Pieces of 2 Roub.	70623	141,246			Half ditto
	of 1 ditto	30014	30,014			Quarter ditto
	of Half ditto	21001	10,500	50		Pieces of 4 Co 2 do
		Total	807,777	25	Roubles Half ditto Pieces of 15 C of 5 C To	

Coined since Her present MAJESTY's Accession

G O L D.						
Names of the Coins.	Fine Weight.	Alloy Weight.	Current Value of each Piece.	Value to the Crown per Zollotnick fine	Number of Pieces.	Current Value
Ducats.	Poods	Poods	225 Cop.	Cop. Cop. Cop. 252.7 or 275 or 315	78369	
	16 $\frac{2}{10}$	$\frac{20}{34}$		Value to the Crown		
			All Charges, &c. 3 Cop. per Ducat Val.			2351
			Value of the Copper, Alloy 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po.			1 85
Imperials. Half Imperials.	188 $\frac{574}{1110}$	17 $\frac{314}{1110}$	1000		258192	
	55 $\frac{409}{1110}$	5 $\frac{1466}{1110}$	500		152388	
				Value to the Crown		
			All Charges, &c. 2 Ro. per lb Ro.			19565 20
			Value of Copper Alloy 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po.			122 28

# AGE and COINS of *RUSSIA*.

## VER.

Names of the Coins.	Value.	
	Ro.	Co.
ables	991,351	
1 Pieces	4,465,667	
	23,869,786	84
re Pieces	9,202,990	
s of 5 and		
opecks, and	32,199	11
nd Copecks		
ners	57,549	
ian Roubles	25,929	60
ditto	20,380	80
ter ditto	30,165	60
s of 4 Cop.	23,274	72
2 do.	920	28
bles	47,598,924	
ditto	1,825,677	
es of 15 Cop.	1,327,914	80
of 5 Cop.	511,324	70
Total	89,984,054	45

## COPPER.

Coined from Anno	Names of the Coins.	Value.	
		Ro.	Co.
1700 to 1704	{ Denishkars	8,837	24
	{ Polufhkys	21,227	7
1704 to 1718	Copecks	2,243,537	69
1718 to 1723	Polufhkys	524,741	
1728 to 1729	Copecks	496,544	
1724 to 1731	Pieces of 5 Cop.	3,491,786	
1732 to 1755	Denishkars	3,346,340	23
N. B. The Accounts of the Copper Coinage from 1755 to 1762, are not obtainable; but if for these 7 Years we take a Sum proportionable to the above 55 Years, it will be		1,290,674	41
Total		11,423,687	64

Accession, 28th June 1762, to 1st January 1767.

per of es.	Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 252,7 Cop.		Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 275 Cop.		Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 315 Cop.		Current Amount.
	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	
369	176330	50	176330	50	176330	50	176,330 50
Crown	158533	87	172524		197618	40	
	17796	63	3806	50	21287	90	
85	Gain 2352	85	Gain 2352	85	Loss 2352	85	
	9 $\frac{3}{4}$ per Ct.	15443 78	$\frac{7}{8}$ per Ct.	1453 65	12 per Ct.	23640 75	
192	2.581920		2.581920		2.581920		2,581,920
388	761940		761940		761940		761,940
	3.343860		3.343860		3.343860		
Crown	2.365438	11	2.574190	99	2.948597	16	
5 20	978421	89	769669	1	395262	84	
2 28	Gain 19687	48	Gain 19687	48	Gain 19687	48	
	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.	958734 41	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.	749981 53	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.	375575 36	

SILVER.									40
Roubles, $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{4}$ , $\frac{1}{8}$ , $\frac{1}{16}$ , and $\frac{1}{32}$ Parts of Roubles	} 13302 $\frac{9}{32}$	4434 $\frac{3}{32}$	A Rouble 100 Co. other Parts propor- tionally.	} Cop. 17 $\frac{3}{8}$ or 20 or 22	Value to the Crown				Curr to th
Prussian Silver Coins made in 1762. Gouldens Small Pieces Smaller Pieces					All Charges, &c. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po. Ro.	150760	63		
					Value of Copper, Alloy 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po.	24387	75		
	211 $\frac{9}{16}$ 19 $\frac{13}{32}$ 1 $\frac{105}{32}$	211 $\frac{9}{16}$ 43 $\frac{8}{32}$ 4 $\frac{30}{32}$	23 $\frac{7}{8}$ 4 $\frac{16}{32}$ 2 $\frac{8}{32}$	} 20		713700 524500 1050000			30 $\frac{7}{8}$
					All Charges, &c. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po. Value of Copper Alloy				
COPPER.					In Default of Accounts we must take a Sum for these This Sum being Pood 57619 $\frac{38}{100}$ will be at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Pood,				All C

## A TABLE of the WEIGHTS, STANDARDS, and VALUES of the RU

### WEIGHT.

N.B. 96 Zolotnicks make a Pound Rus, and equal to 13oz. 3dwts. 6gr. English, Troy Weight.

N. B. Fine

Denominations.	Standard.		Alloy.		Each Piece fine.		Essay in each Piece.		Each Piece gros.		Fine Si English. l. s. d.
	English oz. dwts.	Rus. Zoll.	English oz. dwts.	Rus. Zoll.	English oz. dwts.	Rus. Zoll.	English oz. dwts.	Rus. Zoll.	English oz. dwts.	Rus. Zoll.	
A Ducat	12 17 $\frac{204}{32}$	94	5 $\frac{186}{32}$	2	11 $\frac{304}{32}$	9 $\frac{4}{32}$	7 $\frac{33}{32}$	1 $\frac{8}{32}$	2 $\frac{102}{32}$	1 $\frac{6}{32}$	9 3 7
An Imperial	12 1 $\frac{34}{32}$	88	1 1 $\frac{44}{32}$	8	7 $\frac{276}{32}$	2 $\frac{28}{32}$	3 $\frac{51}{32}$	1 $\frac{8}{32}$	8 $\frac{141}{32}$	3 $\frac{3}{32}$	1 12 10 1
A Rouble	9 17 $\frac{21}{32}$	72	3 5 $\frac{30}{32}$	24	11 $\frac{312}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{32}$	3 $\frac{38}{32}$	1 $\frac{33}{32}$	15 $\frac{161}{32}$	5 $\frac{8}{32}$	3 2 7



	19687 48	Gain	19687 48	Gain	19687 48	
	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. 958734 41	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. 749981 53	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. 375575 36			
	Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 17 $\frac{3}{8}$ Cop.	Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 20 Cop.	Current Amount, and Amount to the Crown, a 22 Cop.			
own	12.108055 80 9.082246 43	12.108055 80 10.216250 20	12.108055 80 11.237875 22	12,108,055 80		
63	3.025809 37	1.891805 60	870180 58			
75	Gain 175148 38	Gain 175148 38	Gain 175148 38			
	30 $\frac{7}{8}$ per Ct. 2.850660 99	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. 1.716657 22	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ per Ct. 695032 20			
oo		169928 57 24976 19 25000				
oo		219904 76 178401 79		219,904 76		
oo	Value to the Crown					
	Ro. 4170 7 1420 67	41502 97 5590 74				
	Gain 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.	35912 23				
m for these 5 Years proportionable to the above 7, which will be per Pood, the Price which the Crown buys at of private People				921910 21 316906 59	921,910 21	
All Charges 1 Ro. per Pood				605003 62 57619 38		
That is Gain 146 $\frac{1}{8}$ per Ct.				547384 24	16,770,061 67	

the RUSSIAN COINS, by which the above Calculations were made.

VALUE.				Their COPPER COINS are,			
N. B. Fine Gold 4 4 11 4.54 Eng. per Ounce. Rufs per Zoll.							
Fine Silver — 5. 7. 0.27 do. — — — do. per do. —							
English.	Per Zoll. fine.	Rufs.	Current for		WEIGHT.	VALUE at	
l. s. d.	Cop.	Copecks each Piece.	Copecks.		oz. dwts.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. per Po.	
					Zoll.	Cop.	
9 3 $\frac{7}{8}$	252.7	201.3	225	N. B. Proportionable here- to may the Weights, Va- lues, &c. of the subdivided Coins be found.			
	275	219.7					
	315	250.93					
1 12 10 $\frac{2}{10}$	252.7	709.7	1000		A Piece of 5 Copecks	1 12 $\frac{3}{8}$	12 1.72
	275	772.34			A Gros, or 2 ditto	13 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{4}{8}$ .688
	315	884.7			A Copeck — —	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ .344
3 2 $\frac{7}{10}$	17.78	71.88	100		A Denishkar — —	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	1 $\frac{1}{8}$ .172
	20	84.375			A Polufky — —	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	1 $\frac{1}{8}$ .086
	22	92.8					

# A VIEW of the Export-Trade from St. PETERSBURG to GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, from Anno 1755 to 1766 included.

Years.	Iron.	Clean-Hemp.	Half-clean.	Out-shot.	Clean-Flax.	Half-Clean.	Flax Codilla.	Flax Yarn.	Hemp Codilla.	linglafs.	Briffles.	Salt-petre.	Wax.	Hides.	Tallow.	Rozin.	Beaver-Codd.	Diaper.	Linen.	Crafh.	Dril-lings.	Fleems.	Raven-duck.	Sail-cloth.	Hare-skins.	Deals.	Ermins.	Squirrel skins.	Rhu-barb.	Pot-afh.	Soap.	Mafts.	Matts.	Number of Ships.	Amount.		
	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po. lb	Ars.	Ars.	Ars.	Ps.	P.	Ps.	Ps.	Ps.	Ps.	Timner.	Ps.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Ps.	Ps.		Ro.	Co.	
1755	723196	1202302	33897	17399	58242	29009	186	1286	53842	1573	6576	5285	668		46		4	3 1/2	194662	4592398	594071	30191	8722	18760	8335	166135	226719							224	2849742	58	
1756	458716	1117018	12642	6569	58978	21833	157	2150		1774	4311	940	147	102	9933	6004	1	17	152555	3583672	303678	51361	534	15108	5428	87889	161148						66	183	2640556	96	
1757	338736	736689	6330	2687	63906	18520	56	4616	274	1387	3699	7198	969	138	14232		4		105269	1772328	996567	44319	290	17485	6002	151315	14639							127	1819675	72	
1758	514228	839111	6349	3804	98559	28820	88		547	1447	4698	15676	561	569	9642	2468			38290	1001948	552945	37426	1505	24323	11583	81910	23314							161	2599965	68	
1759	863579	1352166	5665	6757	166995	28818	113	644	1398	2246	12596	12831	270	816		10006			143645	552764	163308	40562	10943	25263	7069	45050	16589						184	209	3379578	16	
1760	630894	803182	5232	1040	63604	19827				1624	5562	15131	20		298		1	23	329809	2309267	366822	4492	804	22103	11242	81105	29143	69 1/2			520	30		137	2450074	46	
1761	1014022	548141	2075	13108	92348	21701			4034	2021	8156	6478			3659		2	39	327811	3083317	1229989	74029	1360	24289	13361	37790	2372	3176		40 22				129	3030434	99	
1762	752840	816977	16050	83237	66079	32819			21265	2687	8328		312	324	325		3	15	136067	739049	237689	72099	1888	30236	1406	97105	2916			59 37	1003		176		151	3201433	24
1763	795356	603936	90385	67853	107928	53828			9895	2851	10540	12700	240	390	1020		7	26	783478	2264892	956594	41752	1827	38833	4005	107340	19796	7	2460	157 14	2035			12000	141	3260254	51
1764	1088653	872880	36061	44110	88114	18375			30971	879	6715	15513	25	920			3	26	248032	2842930	1415178	43692	2854	30119	10000	25385	61517	46 1/2		277 19				6950	184	3537003	22
1765	1535381	867827	12854	55887	50104	16921	58		96841	2657	9524	4000		427		118	2	28	348947	3155860	1575897	42102	2601	35870	12759	16390	81113	23 1/2	71000	1079				13300	232	4381393	74
1766	755822	668843	6981	35993	42650	14839	175		17414	1949	11246	4300		2768	23992	852	3	32	344272	1900326	492267	34994	1812	40237	11559	81415	41315	47 1/2	23000		555 - 376	86	38270	149	3309096	56	

N. B. A Pood Rufs contains 40 Pounds Troy Weight, or 36 Avoirdupois.

## Medium of EXPORTS.

From the above Abstract it appears, that the Export Trade to Great Britain and Ireland from St. Petersburg only, amounts in the 12 Years to 36459209 Roubles 82 Copecks, equal to 7291841l. 19s. 5d. Sterling, which at a Medium is 607653l. 10s. Sterling *per ann.*

1755	28,5	73,1	Medium	24,3=6	1761	30,3	94,9	Medium	31,6=8
1756	26,4				1762	32,			
1757	18,2				1763	32,6			
1758	25,9				1764	35,3			
1759	33,7	84,1	28	=7	1765	43,8	112,1	. . . 37,3=9,3	
1760	24,5				1766	33,			

Increase on the Mediums of 3 Years as 3 to 2.

The Medium Increase on the Value of Exports for every Three Years, in the adjoined Twelve, is in a regular Progreffion of 6,7,8,9; so that the Medium Value in 1766, was to the Medium Value in 1755, as 3 to 2, an Increase by One Half of the Export in 1755.







# General Exports and Imports from and to St. PETERSBURG, RIGA, ARCHANGEL, and NARVA.

From and To the Port of St. PETERSBURG in Five Years, viz.

From and To	1762.				1763.				1764.				1765.				1766.			
	Exports.		Imports.		Exports.		Imports.		Exports.		Imports.		Exports.		Imports.		Exports.		Imports.	
	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.
Great Britain and Ireland	3201433	24	1083627	72	3260254	51	1165569	17	3537003	22	1338977	12	4381393	74	1179738	78	3309096	56	925731	90
Holland	413628	82	198593	15	576462	48	165160	18	473970	69	203456	67	535473	41	385180	75	402952	7	310004	74
France	141556	80	476447	19	76358	63	862865	94	37569	47	880604	40	178873	9	880717	13	246338	46	825715	35
Hamburg	306716	76	111302	9	204066	18	101194	49	333031	51	109414	30	341885	95	126638	69	392059	22	196028	78
Lubeck	589847	36	148404	30	450632	62	100530	13	362765	92	203806	52	488318	81	212232	62	313428	20	179397	76
Rostock	111273	23	14484	22	134630	30	17306	32	156254	42	29745	10	172560	22	32231	88	126222	91	36644	29
Saxony	70542	8	69235	40	71978	4	89734	42	66858	24	29354	71	65677	52	65006	39	66632	23	43682	8
Prussian Dominions	3898	72					139577	90	36687	8	35123	89	41432	1	26777	86	167710	96	83260	51
Austrian Dominions	219	90	58447	8	894	82	35380	77	3536	26	43366	69	3850	69	62002	11	1854	40	29752	4
Denmark	173746	72	35941	51	166035	38	156782	1	99757	31	44051	70	227014	25	43258	74	77329	54	30885	41
Sweden	70426	75	19997	96	56730		32606	44	58917	92	90100	52	11341	52	51394	58	1984	7	23286	60
Italy	288977	12	12377	71	272223	78	20459	67	387859	30	31072	58	357776	1	37638	21	385563	6	34966	75
Sundry Parts, by Masters of Ships and Passengers	83629	23	161509	23	160553	50	130877	5	208906	31	140980	90	135038	81	194684	82	210400	7	116798	21
Sundry Parts, by Russians	642036	70	567388	3	703376	80	606930	25	617217	31	668343	97	647311	31	775662	33	573548	7	892960	32



9

## EXPORTED from ONEGA, by Mr. WILLIAM GOMM.

Anno	Iron.		Balks.	Ribbs.	Deals.	Battins.	Rafters	Sparrs.	Hand-Spikes.	Oars.	Mafts and Top-Mafts.	Bow-Sprits.	Yards and Booms.	Fire-Wood.	Lath-Wood.	Sail-Cloth.	Raven-duck.	Cord-age.	Pitch.	Tar.	In his own Ships.	In hired Ships.	Value of	Particular Amount.		General Amount.	
	Po.	lb.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No	Fathoms	Fathoms	Ps.	Ps.	Po. lb.	Casks.	Barrels.	No.	No.		Ro.	Co.	Ro.	Co.
1763	91274	31	9307	447	154688	6345	2494	4912	2519	588	122	42	73	364	35 $\frac{1}{2}$						7	14	Timber, &c. Iron	28631 46038	85 88		
																										74670	73
1764	97252	12	17017		171549	29189	3412	4953	7727	1288	467	168	317	540	271 $\frac{1}{2}$						11	23	Timber, &c. Iron	54096 70039	87 76		
																										124136	63
1765	120471	37	44816		192910	21013	2125	12120	7603	1781	697	139	56	1052	302						17	49	Timber, &c. Iron	80261 172086	91 76		
																										252348	67
1766	69297	25	49894	5639	217214	49689	1422	14775	17752	3154	504	52	75	1548	357	324	207	16544	42	73	27	45	Timber, &c. Iron	113779 52258	86 39		
																										166038	25

N. B. *Onega* is a Town on the *White Sea*, at the Mouth of the River *Onega*; a few Years ago, there was not a single House there, but it is now a flourishing Port, frequented annually by near 30000 Tons of Shipping. The principal Articles of Export from thence at present, are Timber, Mafts, Iron, Cordage, &c. as above: But it is very probable that if that Port be properly encouraged, most of the other Products of *Russia* may be shipped from it. As yet there have been no Imports there. Mr. *William Gomm* of *St. Petersburg* is the sole Merchant at *Onega*, having obtained an exclusive Privilege for 25 Years, on Condition of paying so much *per Annum* to the Crown, when his Profits exceed a certain Sum.



Rosstock — — — —	St. Petersburg	.011,1	111273	.003,6	14484	96789		.013,4	134630	.003,6	17306	117324		.014,8	156254	.005,9	29745	126505		.014,1	172560	.006,1	32231	140329		.012,3	126223	.007,4	36644	89579	
Saxony — — — —	St. Petersburg	.007,	70542	.017,6	69235	1307		.007,	71978	.018,8	89734			.006,3	66858	.005,8	29355	37503		.005,3	65677	.012,2	65006	671		.006,5	66632	.008,8	43682	22950	
The Prussian Dominions — — —	St. Petersburg	.000,3	3899			3899				.029,	139578			.003,4	36687	.006,9	35123	21564		.003,4	41432	.004,9	26777	14655		.016,4	167710	.017,	83260	84450	
The Austrian Dominions — — —	St. Petersburg	.000,02	219	.015,	58447		58228	.000,	895	.007,3	35381			.000,3	3536	.008,6	43365	39830		.000,2	3850	.011,	62002			.000,1	1854	.006,	29752		27895
Denmark — — — —	St. Petersburg	.017,4	173746	.010,	35941	137805		.017,	166035	.033,	156782	9253		.009,4	99757	.008,7	44052	55705		.018,6	227014	.008,2	43258	183756		.007,5	77329	.006,3	30885	46444	
Sweden — — — —	St. Petersburg		70426		19998	50428			56730		32606	24124			58918		90100	487101	31182		11341		51394	40053			1984	23286		21302	
	Riga		459825		3572	456253			462364		4352	458012			491862		4761	162693			573518		6591	566927			472854	4453		468401	
	Narva		172400		4412	167988			173147		4792	168355			167376		4683				152643		6330	146313			159449	5025		154424	
	Amount	.071,6	702651	.007,1	27982	674669		.069,	692241	.009,	41750	650491		.068,	718156	.019,7	99544	649794	31182	.060,5	737502	.012,3	64315	713240		.061,1	634287	.006,7	32764	622825	
Italy — — — —	St. Petersburg	.029,	288977	.003,1	12378	275599		.027,2	272224	.004,	20459	251765		.036,7	387859	.006,1	31072	356787		.029,	357776	.007,2	37638	320138		.037,7	385563	.007,1	34966	350597	
Spain — — — —	Riga	.011,5	114731	.018,2	71438	43293		.011,5	115591	.025,	117931		2340	.011,6	122965	.018,9	95214	27751		.011,7	143379	.016,5	84329	59050		.011,4	118214	.018,1	89072	29142	
Sundry Parts, by Passengers and Captains	St. Petersburg	.008,4	83629	.041,2	161509		77880	.016,	160553	.027,	130877	29676		.019,7	208906	.028,	140980	67926		.011,	135038	.039,2	194684	59646		.020,6	210400	.023,9	116798	93602	
Sundry Parts by Russians — — —	St. Petersburg	.064,5	642037	.145,	567388	74649		.070,2	703379	.127,	606930	96449		.058,4	617217	.132,8	658344		51127	.053,1	647311	.148,8	775662	128351		.056,1	573548	.182,3	822960	319412	
	Total Amount	1000	9944734	1000	3917452	6717874	686592	1000	10007223	1000	4788547	6455138	1236532	1000	5554458	1000	5031600	6778626	1255768	1000	12180857	1000	5211099	8186562	1216504	1000	1020626	1000	14886158	6561049	1240641
	Total Balance		6027282			6027282			5218676			5218676			5522858			5522858			6969758			6969758			5220468			5220468	

N. B. Tho' the balance arising to Russia appears to be at a medium nearly six millions of Roubles *per annum*, we are not to suppose it to be really so great, 1st, Because Riga is to be considered rather as a Polish port, than a Russian one, the goods exported from thence being principally Polish products, so that the profits upon the states belong to Poland, and not to Russia. 2dly, Because the prodigious quantities of all sorts of goods, but particularly French, as also some Asiatic, are annually smuggled into Russia, I am assured, to the value of two millions of Roubles and an half. From these circumstances it appears, that the annual balance of trade in favour of Russia, can't amount upon the whole, to more than three millions of Roubles. Besides the ports of Peterburg, Riga, Narva, Archangel, and Onega, there are those of Pernaw and Revel in Estonia, and Wibourg and Frederickhaven in Finland, but I have not taken notice of them in the General Plan, because the trade of the two first is very trifling, and with regard to the two latter, their imports are not worth mentioning, and their exports being mostly on Swedish account, can scarcely be considered as of any benefit to Russia, tho' supplied from Russian ports.



A GENERAL VIEW of the Amount of the COMMERCE of R U S S I A with E U R O P E.

Anno 1762.										1763.										1764.										1765.										1766.									
From and To		From and to the Ports of		Ratio of Ex-ports.		Ratio of Im-ports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.		Imports.		Difference of Bal-ance of the Exports.																			
Great Britain and Ireland		St. Peterburg		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.		Ro.																			
By Mr. Wm. Gomm, Junior, fr		Riga		1201433		1083628		2117805		3264366		4509613		253,		1213254		3296359		4509613		253,		1213254		3296359		4509613		253,																			
Archangel		Riga		573656		577936		569369		576462		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936		577936																			
Narva		Archangel		143614		14287		127271		43241		135005		20691		20691		14314		135005		20691		20691		14314		135005		20691																			
Amount		Amount		459734		9813		44921		3264366		74671		9585		452142		74671		124137		1386800		3489049		4509613		253,		1213254																			
Holland		St. Peterburg		413629		198593		215036		576462		165160		411302		680997		37252		473970		203456		270514		535473		385180		150393																			
Riga		Riga		917850		200026		717824		924729		243732		680997		216270		37252		983724		266000		717124		1147036		242455		904381																			
Archangel		Archangel		287226		49780		237446		270010		53740		216270		37252		37252		307090		58242		248848		287469		58495		228774																			
Narva		Narva		57466		14225		43241		51629		14377		37252		37252		37252		55792		14048		41744		50880		18992		31888																			
Amount		Amount		676171		462624		1213547		1822850		477009		1345824		786507		255865		1820576		542346		1278239		2020858		705122		1315736																			
France		St. Peterburg		141557		476447		334890		76358		862865		786507		843035		290594		37569		880604		178873		880717		880717		701844																			
Riga		Riga		229462		445056		215594		231182		487047		255865		255865		255865		245931		536525		286759		515217		515217		228458																			
Amount		Amount		371019		921503		550484		307540		1349914		1042374		1133629		1133629		283500		1417129		465632		1395934		930302		930302																			
Hamburgh		St. Peterburg		306716		111302		195414		204066		101194		102872		225617		225617		333031		109414		341885		126638		215247		215247																			
Archangel		Archangel		430840		130746		300094		405016		189920		215096		305323		305323		460635		155312		431204		155966		275238		275238																			
Amount		Amount		737556		242048		495508		609082		291114		317968		528949		528949		793666		264726		773089		282604		490489		490489																			
Lubeck		St. Peterburg		589847		148404		441443		450632		100530		350132		158960		158960		362766		203806		458318		212232		276086		276086																			
Roffock		St. Peterburg		111273		14484		96789		134630		17306		117324		126509		126509		156254		29745		172560		32231		140329		140329																			





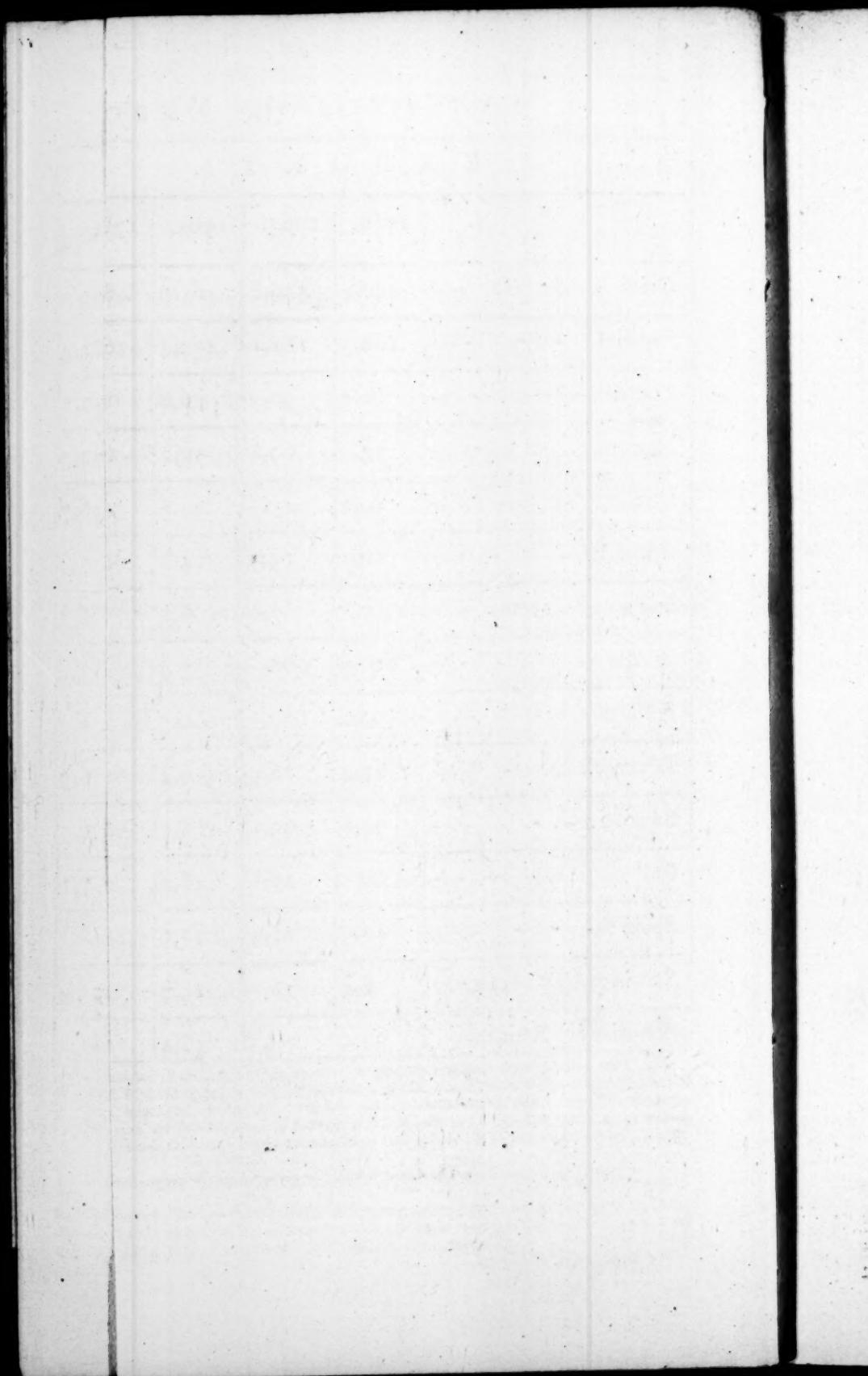
# RATIOS of the EXPORTS and IMPORTS of RUSSIA.

EXPORTS.						IMPORTS.					
	1762.	1763.	1764.	1765.	1766.		1762.	1763.	1764.	1765.	1766.
Great Britain, &c. - -	440,2	449,6	461,9	484,6	452,5	— — —	286,9	253,	275,6	235,8	199,1
Holland - - - -	168,5	182,1	172,4	165,9	162,1	— — —	118,	99,6	107,7	135,3	129,4
France - - - -	37,3	30,7	26,8	38,2	47,2	— — —	235,2	282,	281,6	267,8	277,2
Hamburg - - - -	74,	60,8	75,2	63,4	75,8	— — —	61,7	60,7	52,6	54,	72,5
Lubeck - - - -	59,2	45,	34,3	40,	30,7	— — —	37,8	20,9	40,5	40,7	36,7
Rostock - - - -	11,1	13,4	14,8	14,1	12,3	— — —	3,6	3,6	5,9	6,1	7,4
Saxony - - - -	7,	7,0	6,3	5,3	6,5	— — —	17,6	18,8	5,8	12,2	8,8
Prussia - - - -	000,3	000,	3,4	3,4	16,4	— — —	— —	29,	6,9	4,9	17,
Austria - - - -	000,02	000,	000,3	,2	0,1	— — —	14,9	7,3	8,6	11,	6,
Denmark - - - -	17,4	16,5	9,4	18,6	7,5	— — —	9,1	32,7	8,7	8,2	6,3
Sweden - - - -	71,6	69,	68,	60,5	61,1	— — —	7,1	8,7	19,7	12,3	6,7
Italy - - - -	29,	27,2	36,7	29,	37,7	— — —	3,1	4,	6,1	7,2	7,1
Spain - - - -	11,5	11,5	11,6	11,7	11,4	— — —	18,2	24,6	18,9	16,5	18,1
Sundries by Passengers	8,4	16,	19,7	11,	20,6	— — —	41,2	27,3	28,	39,2	23,9
Sundries by Russians -	64,5	70,	58,4	53,1	56,1	— — —	144,5	126,7	132,8	148,8	182,3

*Note.* That each of these numbers are aliquot parts of a thousand, and that each column is utterly independent of the other, both in the export and import tables. Thus in the export table, Great Britain is marked in 1762 at 440,2 of a thousand; and in 1763, Great Britain is marked 449,6, and the obvious increase is but 9 parts of a thousand, tho' the fact is otherwise. The export in 1763 was vastly greater than in 1762, and yet Great Britain advanced those 9 parts of that considerable increased import. Let us refer to table No. 1, where a triennial increase of export in 12 years is, as 6, 7, 8, 9, that which is marked above 440, to the export 6, would be 660 to the export 9; but for propriety sake it is taken on the more general principle of annual export. However a table of the real export to Britain may not be found immaterial, and is therefore given as follows:

Export to Great Britain for 5 years, on the proportion of 1762	1762.	1763.	1764.	1765.	1766.
	440,2	538	586,7	733,6	538,

This is the true state of the increase on export to Great Britain.—The export compared with the import in 1762, shews a balance in favour of Russia of near three times the whole value of the import, and in 1765 near four times the whole import.—The export to Great Britain is in every year near one half of the whole export. It is near 3 times more than to Holland, 14 times more than to France, 7 times more than to Hamburg, 10 times more than to Lubeck, 28 times more than to Denmark, 6 times more than to Sweden, 16 times more than to Italy, and 40 times more than to Spain.



EXPORTED and IMPORTED from and to TEMERNICK, viz.				Anno 1761, Imported as follows.		to Amount of Roubles.
Anno 1759	to Amount of Ro. Duties - - -	Exported.	Imported.	Ballance in favour of Exports.		
		37842	61602			
		9706	25461			
		47548	36141	11407		
to						
1760	- - - - Duties - - -	42283	85084	Ballance in favour of Imports.		
		11411	26088			
		53694	58996	5302		
Anno 1761, Exported as follows				to Amount of Roubles.		
Cordage				2500		
Bar Iron	1121	Pood		5053		
Unwrought Iron and in Pots				600		
Pressed Caviar	10848	Pood		10848		
Butter	7418	do.		11127		
Hare Skins				400		
Narrow Linnen	250750	Arsheens		7523		
Crash	64000	do.		1152		
Candles	1631	Pood		1631		
Hides	350	do.		1241		
Silk Stuffs				19		
		Ro.		42094		
	Duties on the whole			10677		
		Ro.		52771		
				Duties on the whole		108333
						37990
						70343
				Amount of Exports, with Duties, as on the preceding Page		52771
				Ballance in favour of the Imports, for Anno 1761		17572
				<p><i>Note, The duties are all added to the exports, because they are all paid by the foreign consumer, whereas the duties are substracted from the import, as being paid by the natives to the state.</i></p>		







EXPORTED and IMPORTED from and to ASTRA-  
CAN, Anno 1761, viz.

	Export- ed.	Import- ed.	Bal- lance in favour of Im- ports.
To Amount of Ro. Duties	115745 4774	138025 13088	
	120519	124937	4418

The annual Exports consist chiefly in the following Ar-  
ticles, namely,

Combs some Thousands  
French Velvet Grizett and Lustring  
Iron in Bars, and Nails about 1500 Pood  
Padlocks in Number do. 4000  
Small Looking-Glasses do. do. 1300  
Foreign Needles do. do. 40000  
Rufs Needles 300000  
Iron Pots 300  
Soap  
Scissars, common Sorts 3000  
Clasp Knives 4000  
Sugar about 100 Pood

Cloth  
— Dutch 3300  
— French 3000  
German

German Cloth to the Value of Ro. 5000  
Crimson coloured 20000  
Cloth of several Sorts 9000  
Campeachy and Log-wood 4000  
Shalloons 665 Ps. to the Value of 9500  
Wheat Flour 4000  
Rye Flour 520  
875 Pood of Hydes 3500

And the annual Imports consist chiefly in the following  
Articles, namely,

Silks, Silk Stuffs, half Silk Stuffs, Curtains and Co-  
verlids of several Sorts  
Silk, Cotton, &c. Handkerchiefs  
Silk Veils for Women's Heads  
Persian Silk and Cloth Coats embroidered with Gold  
and Silver  
Persian Carpets  
Raw and Spun Cotton to the Value of Ro. 15000  
A Flame colour'd Silk called Canavat 10000  
Raw and boiled Silk 70000

Pearls, Woollen and Cotton Stuffs of several Sorts,  
Muslin, Persian Coins, as Ducats, &c. Persian  
Lamb-skins, and a few Barrels of Persian Wine,  
called Ziger.

## RUSSIAN Goods exported from TROITSKA

Quality.	Quantity.	Roubles Value.
Night Gowns of Camels Hair	55	124
Beaver Skins	31	28
do. breast Parts	210	50
Otter Skins	930	993
do. breast Parts	300	85
Paper	Ream 160	156
Wax	Pood 8½	65
Combs	8451	84
Iron Ladles, &c.	Pood 766	977
Sundry Looking Glasses	Dozen 2040	600
Cloaks, a common Sort	448	70
do. best Sort	332	265
Common Ruffs Cloth	86	50
Glazed Linen	Pieces 810	134
Mosco Woollen Sashes	370	36
Hides	No. 8490	10740
Fox Skins	116	242
Wrought Copper	Pood 13	175
Tinsel	7	252
Foxes Feet, and Sundry Furs		1040
Pocket Knives	6000	213
Scissars	2283	90
Needles	103500	62
Carried forward	Ro.	16531

Quality.	Quantity.	Roubles Value.
Brought forward		16531
Soldiers Cloth	Arsheens 5483	2450
Stirrups	Pair 1320	142
Thimbles	65000	160
Ear-rings		40
Hatchets	1235	150
Fishing Hooks	6156	123
Iron Ware	Pood 1135	908
Wooden Ware		480
Buttons		116
Dyed Silk	lb. 32½	65
Duties on the whole	Amount - - -	21261
	Ro.	4401
		25662
Foreign Goods (Duties on which at the Importation into Russia were paid) exported from Troitska, 1766.		
Quality.	Quantity.	Roubles Value.
Alafey or Cotton Stuff	Pieces 180	90
German Velvet	Arsheens 623	1869
Small Beads	Pood 334	3340
Beaver Skins	311	1244
Carried forward		6543

# S K A, Anno 1766.

Quality.	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Brought forward		6543
Bafey, or white striped flowered Cotton Stuff	1045	381
India Callico	557	223
Goli or Chinese Sattin	7	105
India Curtains	284	227
Indigo Pood	236 $\frac{1}{2}$	11812
Coral Pood	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	6985
Kumats of Macedonia Pieces	112	168
Oatmeal Pood	99	16
Rye Flour Pood	1284 $\frac{1}{2}$	181
Crimfon coloured Cloth Arsheens	12654	36134
Silefia Cloth Pieces	122	1348
Yorkshire Cloth	100	1000
Shalloons, best Sort	349	4215
Kornowago	281	4362
Galacts, or Night Gowns	200	300
Logwood Pood	1038	1246
Cochineal Pood	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	12400
Sugar Pood	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	443
		88089
Russian Goods exported with Duties, as annexed		25662
Amount of the whole Exports		113751
	Imported	

# Imported to TROITSKA, Anno 1766.

Quality.	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Alafey Pieces	284	142
Bafey Pieces	43762	14082
Alafey Half Pieces	2650 $\frac{1}{2}$	661
Tzaldary, a kind of Carpets	2782	1391
Cotton Pood	431 $\frac{1}{2}$	4288
Bucharian Callico, whole and half Pieces	25750	8302
Curtains	20564	14190
Safhes	5450	1503
Galacts	580	990
Garnoff, or green Leather	4409	3087
Sundry Cotton Stuffs	1465	1400
Wolf Skins	5643	3461
Fox Skins	23031	12944
Fox Tails	9565	192
Korfakoff, or Stone coloured Fox Skins	6503	3251
Astracan Lamb-skins	44488	3173
Raw Hides	801	137
Cloaks	90	24
Shirts	122	170
Camels Hair Pood	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	8
Sheep	2979	2085
Oxen	66	139
Lambs	680	170
Foals 2 and 1 Year old	296	1134
Horses, whereof 13 riding Horses	1313	18172
		95096
Whereof		35605
By the Tartars of Kirgifi	Sundries	21700
By other Asiaticks	Cattle	37791
Whole Imports Ro. 110180		95096
Whole Exports	Duties	15057
Balance in favour of Exports		80039
	Gold 13 Zollotnicks	33
	Silver 52 Poods	29973
	Calmucks 3	135
		110180



RUSSIAN Goods exported from ORENBURG, *Anno* 1766.

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Paper	Reams	702	280
Needles		609050	363
Hides	Pood	3436	13746
Calves Skins	Skins	560	448
Otter Skins		740	940
Iron Pots		1633	1590
Goats Skins		700	210
Fox Skins		63	140
Sundry Sorts of Furs			300
Small & Pocket Looking Glasses	Doz.	356	110
Clasp Knives		2200	78
Bra's Thimbles		24600	100
Soldiers Cloth	Arsheens	9550	4660
Common Russia Cloth		1500	100
Stirrup-Irons	Pairs	700	60
Hatchets, Bits, Scissars, and other } Iron Ware }			500
Duties on the whole			23625 4861
			28486

Foreign Goods (the Duties on which, at the Importation into *Russia* were paid) exported from *Orenburg*, 1766.

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Chinefe Velvet	Arsheens	1809	1809
Small Beads	Pood	154	1540
Carried forward			3349

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Brought forward			
Bafey	Pieces	5000	1932
Razors	Dozen	86	51
Bucharian Callico	Pieces	238	85
Goli		98	1470
Bucharian Curtains		1438	1725
Silefia Needles		525000	315
Coral	Pood	2½	2400
Persian Koetney		36	108
Alafey	Pieces	904	452
Kumatz, or Astracan Stuff		348	522
Callimanco	Arsheens	300	120
Chintz	Pieces	20	20
Indigo	Pood	48½	2412
Bra's Thimbles		60000	600
Pewter		20	140
Cochineal		38½	6180
Sugar		161½	1316
Galacts		88	176
Dyed Silk	Pood	8	964
Crimson, and half Crimson Cloth	Arsh.	8687	3167
Silefia and Polish Cloth	half Pieces	18	330
Soldiers Cloth	Arsheens	126	126
English Cloth	do.	2663	5326
Torkshire Cloth	do.	4129	4129
Corn of the Growth of <i>Russia</i> , for			56471 8365
Amount of <i>Russian</i> Goods, with Duties of Foreign Goods			64836 Ro. 28486 64836
The whole Exports from <i>Orenburg</i>			93322

Roubles  
Value.

3349

1932

51

85

1470

1725

315

2400

108

452

522

120

20

412

600

140

6180

1316

176

964

167

330

126

5326

4129

6471

8365

4836

8486

4836

3322

Imported into ORENBURG, *Anno* 1766,  
by *Russian* and *Asiatick* Merchants.

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Alafey	Pieces	3162	1580
Raw Cotton	Pood	1000	10000
Dressed Cotton		312 $\frac{1}{2}$	2345
Bafey	Pieces	20970	8250
Burmesty or Cotton Stuff		512	256
Bucharia and Igivinsky Callico		6900	3000
do. do. Curtains		7600	5610
Safhes		1065	340
Persian Carpets		20	160
Bucharia Lamb Skins		3660	1630
do. Blankets		40	60
Silk and Cotton Shirts		54	44
Asiatick Tobacco	Pood	15	30
Galacts		1770	3750
Tzaldaroff		6940	3472
Sundry Cotton Stuffs	Pieces	210	420
Kismishu, or dried Grapes	Pood	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	105
Lapis Lazuli		78	11805
			52857

By

By the TARTAR Merchants of KIRGISI,  
as follow.

Quality.	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Wolf Skins	2940	2135
Fox Skins and Feet	8050	3832
Korkasoff, or Stone coloured Fox Skins	6060	2820
Bucharian Lamb-skins	6350	500
Camels Hair	570	1194
Oxen	162	450
Sheep	72180	50526
Foals of 2 and 1 Year old	9	6
Asses	248	776
Goats	5100	2000
Riding Horfes	20	281
Draught Horfes	1811	21732
Lambs	4792	1198
Calves	4	2
		87452
By <i>Russians</i> and <i>Asiaticks</i>		52857
		140309
In all		20739
Duties on the whole		119570
The whole Exports as before		93322
Balance in favour of the Imports		26248



# RUSSIAN Goods exported from KIACHTA to CHINA, Anno 1765.

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.	Duties in Rou- bles.
Hides	No.	23968	34882	2918
Squirrel Skins		468180	22500	1936
Ermins		36256	8589	128
Red Fox Skins		3662	4793	135
Black do.		23	600	30
Sundry Sorts do.		812	1772	55
Russian Beaver Skins		828	1406	155
Kamchatka do.		668	29607	3611
White and Blue coloured Fox Skins		3660	2366	144
Sables		65	164	5
Martens		11282	1312	189
Back Part of Beaver Skins		694	1590	257
Belly and Breast Part of do.		2858	307	76
Sundry Sorts of Furs			2600	
Astracan black Lamb Skins		12478	3353	311
do. white do.		180551	28583	4650
Common Rus Cloth	Arsheens	15561	1534	70
			145958	14670
	Duties		14670	
			160628	

Foreign Goods (the Duties on which, at the Importation into *Russia*  
were paid) exported from *Kiachta*, Anno 1765.

Quality.		Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Gilt Leather	Pieces	184	511
Beaver Skins		6281	26441
Otter Skins		513	1102
Carried forward			28054

Quality.

Brought f

Gilt Leather in half Sheets  
Dutch Cloth  
Polish do.  
Bresslaw do.  
French do.  
Spanish do.  
Dantzick do.  
Silesia do.  
*Yorkshire* do.  
Beaver do.  
Half Beaver Cloth  
Tin Plates  
*English* Cloth

Amount of Foreign  
Amount of *Russian* Goods, with  
Whole Amount of Export

Imported from CHINA into KIACHTA

Quality.

Velvet  
Dab, or Damask  
Goli, or Sattin  
Gros de Tour  
Damask  
Figured Chintz  
Plain Chintz  
Shangayou, or Silk Stuff

Arsheens  
{ do.  
{ Pieces  
do.  
do.  
do.

Carried forward

	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.
Brought forward		28054
Ps.	90	180
Artheens	13521	30313
	120	240
	2852	5819
	551	581
	50	75
	6314	5192
	12082	11139
	100	200
	220	176
	1562	1094
Ps.	2775	369
	3351	2631
		86064
of Foreign Goods oods, with Duties		160628
nt of Exports from <i>Kiachta</i> -		246692

to KIACHTA, *Anno* 1765.

	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.	Duties.
Artheens	4464	4464	1053
do.	140196	5608	1324
Pieces	1098	439	103
do.	6213	55917	13196
do.	18	180	43
do.	763	9919	2341
	14638	58554	13819
	2002	1402	3307
	1844	9221	2176
forward		145704	37362

Quality.	Quan- tity.	Roubles Value.	Duties.
Brought forward		145704	37362
Shangayou Single Pieces	43009	43009	10150
Half Sattin	130	780	184
CEloff, a Silk Stuff	914	5484	1294
Paper of different Sorts Sheets	21260	213	50
Sugar Poood	56	336	79
Gilan Tea	342	10259	2421
Common Tea	36	363	88
Bohea Tea	591	11819	2789
Bohea, called Brik Tea	1228	4912	1159
Bohea, called Lugan Tea	251	1006	237
Dyed Silk	34	2720	642
Raw Silk	26		
Silk Gauze, so called Pieces	1937	4842	1143
Shar, or Tobacco	127		508
Amount of Imports		231447	58106
		58106	
Amount of Exports		173341	
		246692	
Balance in favour of Exports		73551	

Exported and Imported from and to KIACHTA, *Anno* 1764.

Exported <i>Russian</i> Goods to Amount of - - - - Ro.	137493
Duties on the whole - - - -	12851
Exported Foreign Goods to the Amount of - - - -	25586
	175930
Imported to Amount of - Ro.	158236
Duties - - - -	37344
	120892
Balance in favour of the Exports - - - - Ro.	55038

# A General VIEW of

	1759.				1760.				
Exported and Im- ported from and to	Ex- ports.	Im- ports.	Difference of		Ex- ports.	Im- ports.	Diff. of		Ex- ports.
	Ro.	Ro.	Ex- ports.	Im- ports.	Ro.	Ro.	Ex- ports.	Im- ports.	Ro.
Temernick - -	47548	36141	11407		53694	58996	5302		52771
Astracan -									
Troitska -									120519
Orenburg -									
Kiachta - -									
Armenia - -									
Total Amount	47548	36141	11407		53694	58996	5302		173290
	36141					53694			17
Total Balance	11407					5302			2

*Note,* By this TABLE it is obvious, that the ballance of the Afia  
The State however had a benefit in this trade, from the duties on  
above eight years : So that in fact the State gains more by the taxation

# of the Amount of the COMMERCE of

1761.				1762.				1763.			
Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of		Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of		Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of	
Ro.	Ro.	Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Ro.	Ro.	Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Ro.	Ro.	Ex-ports.	Im-ports.
52771	70343	Ro.	Ro.								
			17572								
120519	124937		4418								
				2617	4160		1543	4743	50651		45908
173290	195280		21990	2617	4160		1543	4743	50651		45908
	173290				2617				4743		
	21990				1543				45908		

of the Asiatic trade is against Russia in general, and in the eight years above, amounted to 1  
the duties on both export and import, to the amount in the preceding Tables of 307224 Rou  
by the taxation, than the nation loses by the ballance against them.

# Account of the COMMERCE of RUSSIA

1762.				1763.				1764.		
Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of Ex-ports. Im-ports.		Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of Ex-ports. Im-ports.		Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Diff Ex-ports.
Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.
								175930	120892	5503
2617	4160		1543	4743	50651		45908	343	50390	
2617	4160		1543	4743	50651		45908	176273	171282	5503
	2617				4743			171282		5004
	1543				45908			4991		499

Russia in general, and in the eight years above, amounted to 114974 Roubles.  
 and import, to the amount in the preceding Tables of 307224 Roubles, without including  
 tion loses by the ballance against them.



# RUSSIA with ASIA.

1764.			1765.				1766.			
Exports.	Difference of Ex-ports.	Imports.	Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Ex-ports.	Im-ports.	Difference of Ex-ports.	Im-ports.
Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.	Ro.
							113751	110180	3571	
							93322	119570		26248
892	55038		246692	173341	73351					
390		50047	412	54812		54400	4844	52756		47912
282	55038	50047	247104	228153	73351	54400	211917	282506	3571	7,160
	50047		228153		54400			211917		3571
	4991		18951		18951			70589		70589

bles.

ut including the duty on foreign goods exported, or taking the regular series of the

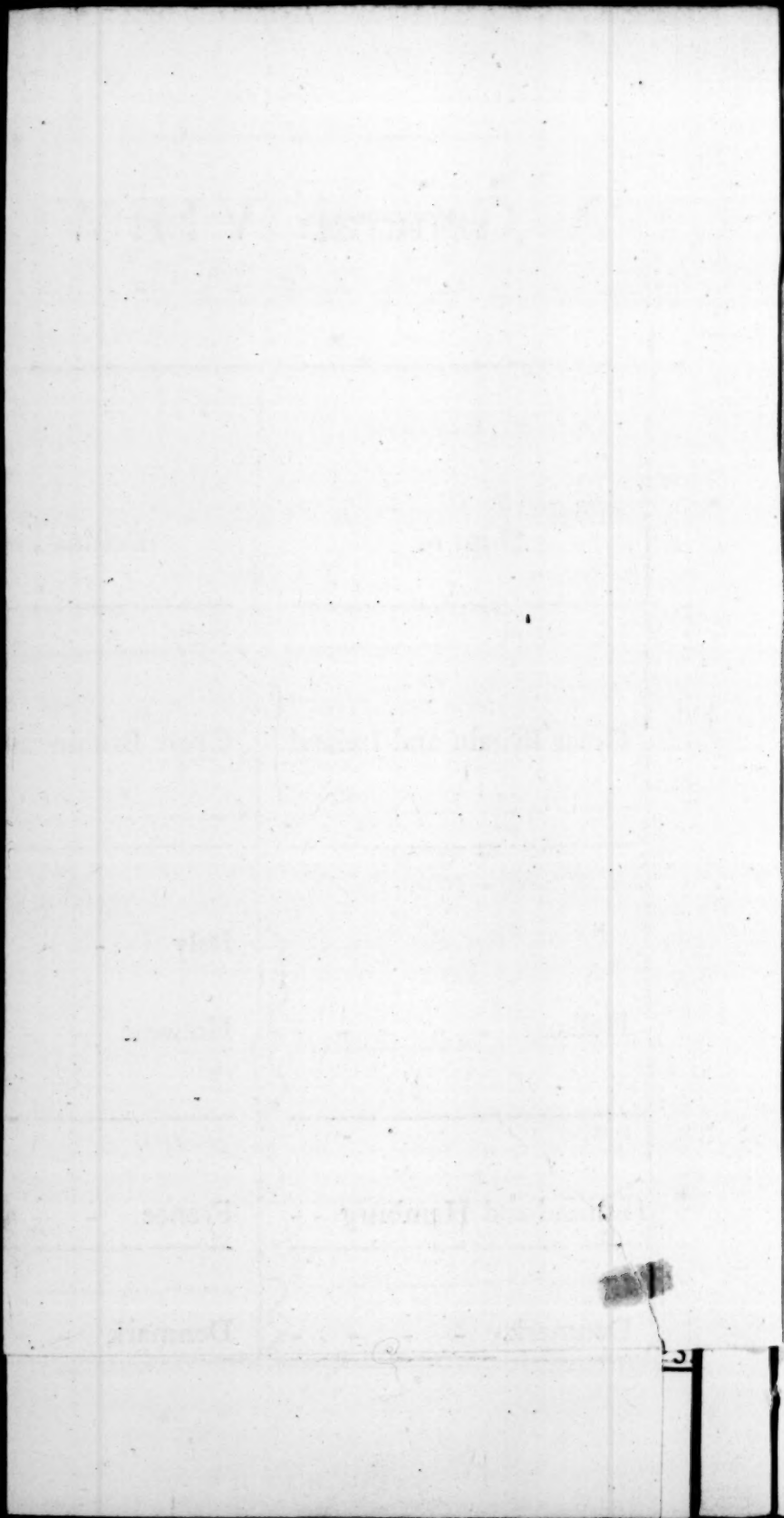
# A General VIEW of the Tonnage of RUSSIA in the

Ships of	Destination to	At the Ports of		1797	
				Number of Ships.	Tonnage
Great Britain and Ireland	Italy - - - - -	St. Petersburg		10	14
		St. Petersburg		184	397
	Great Britain and Ireland	Riga		98	150
		Narva		45	73
		Archangel		10	20
		Onega		34	122
		Amount		381	793
Holland - - - - -	Italy - - - - -	St. Petersburg		5	7
		St. Petersburg		22	33
	Holland - - - - -	Riga		230	447
		Narva		94	278
		Archangel		14	36
		Amount		365	803
Holland and Hamburg - -	France - - - - -	St. Petersburg		17	19
Denmark - - - - -	Denmark - - - - -	St. Petersburg		13	6
		Riga		55	62
		Narva		11	9
		Archangel		3	8
		Amount		82	87
Sweden - - - - -	Sweden - - - - -	St. Petersburg		17	9
		Riga		118	130
		Narva		23	20
		Archangel		1	2
		Amount		159	162
Dantzick - - - - -	The several	St. Petersburg		8	5
		Riga		4	13
		Narva		8	23
		Amount		20	41
Rostock - - - - -	Parts of	St. Petersburg		15	8
		Riga		16	12
		Amount		31	20
Hamburg - - - - -	the	St. Petersburg		6	8
		Riga		23	46
		Archangel		6	16
		Amount		35	70
Lubeck - - - - -	German	St. Petersburg		25	32
		Riga		19	21
		Narva		3	2
		Amount		47	56
Stettien - - - - -	Domi-	St. Petersburg		35	34
		Riga			
		Amount		35	34
Bremen - - - - -	nions.	Riga		24	32
		Archangel		2	4
		Amount		26	36
Russia - - - - -	Sundry Parts - - - - -	St. Petersburg		10	21
		Riga		14	18
		Narva		3	3
		Archangel		4	12
		Amount		31	55
Total Amount				1229	2183



# of EUROPEAN Ships trading to and from in three Years, viz.

1764.			1765.			1766.		
Number of Ships.	Tonnage.	Each Ship's Tonnage at a Medium.	Number of Ships.	Tonnage.	Each Ship's Tonnage at a Medium.	Number of Ships.	Tonnage.	Each Ship's Tonnage at a Medium.
10	1452	145	8	967	121	10	1442	144
34	39753	216	232	47980	206	149	28749	193
98	15650	160	104	16450	140	116	19120	165
45	7341	163	48	10566	220	52	8406	160
10	2940	294	17	5600	330	16	5242	327
34	12240	360	46	12960	360	72	25920	360
31	79376	1338	455	94523	1377	415	88879	1349
5	793	159	5	716	143	5	910	182
22	3340	152	31	3965	128	42	6479	154
30	44700	192	195	31860	163	114	18800	165
44	27838	296	65	19464	300	98	28374	290
14	3699	192	31	8182	264	28	7298	260
65	80370	991	327	64187	998	287	61761	1051
17	1987	117	24	3126	130	17	3386	199
13	688	53	20	1335	67	38	2229	59
55	6270	114	46	6390	180	91	9870	108
11	912	83	13	976	75	8	408	51
3	840	280	3	936	312	6	1020	170
32	8710	530	82	9637	634	143	13527	388
17	919	54	27	1525	56	25	1318	52
18	13070	110	113	14300	126	84	11730	140
23	2016	87	15	1210	81	21	1956	93
1	260	260	2	501	250	2	518	259
59	16265	511	157	17536	513	132	15522	544
8	549	68	10	540	54	13	801	61
4	1300	325	1	320	320	1	200	200
8	2300	287	7	2248	321	3	908	302
10	4149	680	18	3108	695	17	1909	563
5	894	59	16	835	52	17	838	50
6	1200	75	32	4190	131	32	3880	121
1	2094	134	48	5025	183	49	4718	171
6	810	135	4	839	220	5	1080	216
3	4650	202	24	3540	148	59	8790	149
6	1600	266	17	7790	459	14	4430	324
5	7060	603	45	12169	827	78	14300	689
5	3272	131	27	3100	115	43	4742	110
9	2160	114	21	4280	203	33	4220	190
3	226	75	2	206	103	3	602	200
7	5658	320	50	7586	421	79	9564	500
5	3454	98	31	3504	119	19	1829	99
			13	1200	93	21	2300	110
5	3454	98	44	4704	212	40	4129	209
4	3200	133	12	1420	118	14	1650	118
2	480	240	3	722	241	2	500	250
6	3680	373	15	2142	359	16	2150	368
0	2146	214	8	2212	276	7	1850	264
4	1800	128	13	1760	135	10	1620	162
3	390	130	5	758	151	4	720	180
4	1234	308	3	650	216	8	2284	285
1	5570	880	29	5380	778	29	6474	891
9	218373	6575	1294	229123	7127	1302	236319	6922



A LIST of the Goods exported from the Port of  
WYBURG, Anno 1766.

	Quantity.	Amount in Roubles.
Deals of fundry Dimensions		94177
Iron	Poods 4586	2941
Tar	1444	289
Pitch	4108	1565
Train Oil	Casks 84	837
Tallow Candles	Poods 286	677
Tallow	649	1173
Linen of different Sorts		1150
Total Amount		102809

These Goods were exported in 107 Ships,

Whereof 50 failed for Great Britain and Ireland  
 13 ——— for Holland  
 23 ——— for France  
 6 ——— for Spain  
 1 ——— for Hamburg  
 1 ——— for Ostend  
 13 ——— for the Baltick

Ships 107, the Tonnage whereof make ca. 36500 Tons.

A LIST of the Goods exported from the Port of  
FRIEDRICKSHAVEN, Anno 1766.

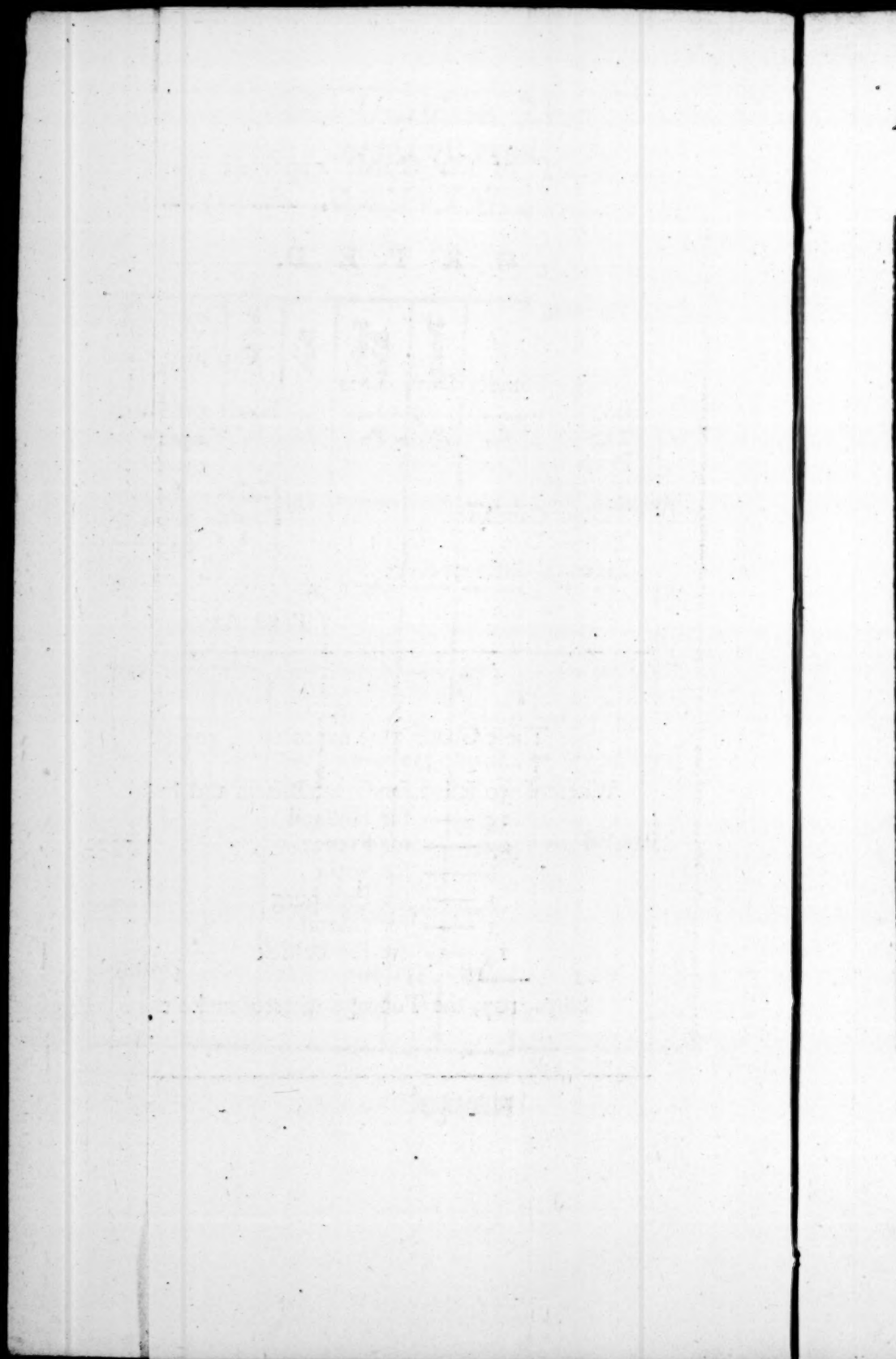
	Quantity.	Amount in Roubles.
Deals of Sundry Dimensions		14385
Iron	Poods 1098	859
Tar	1696	211
Pitch	8320	2600
Total Amount		18055

These Goods were exported in 25 Ships,

Whereof 1 failed to Great Britain and Ireland  
 15 ——— to Holland  
 3 ——— to France  
 1 ——— to Spain  
 5 ——— to the Baltick

25 Ships, the Tonnage of which makes ca. 5500  
Tons.

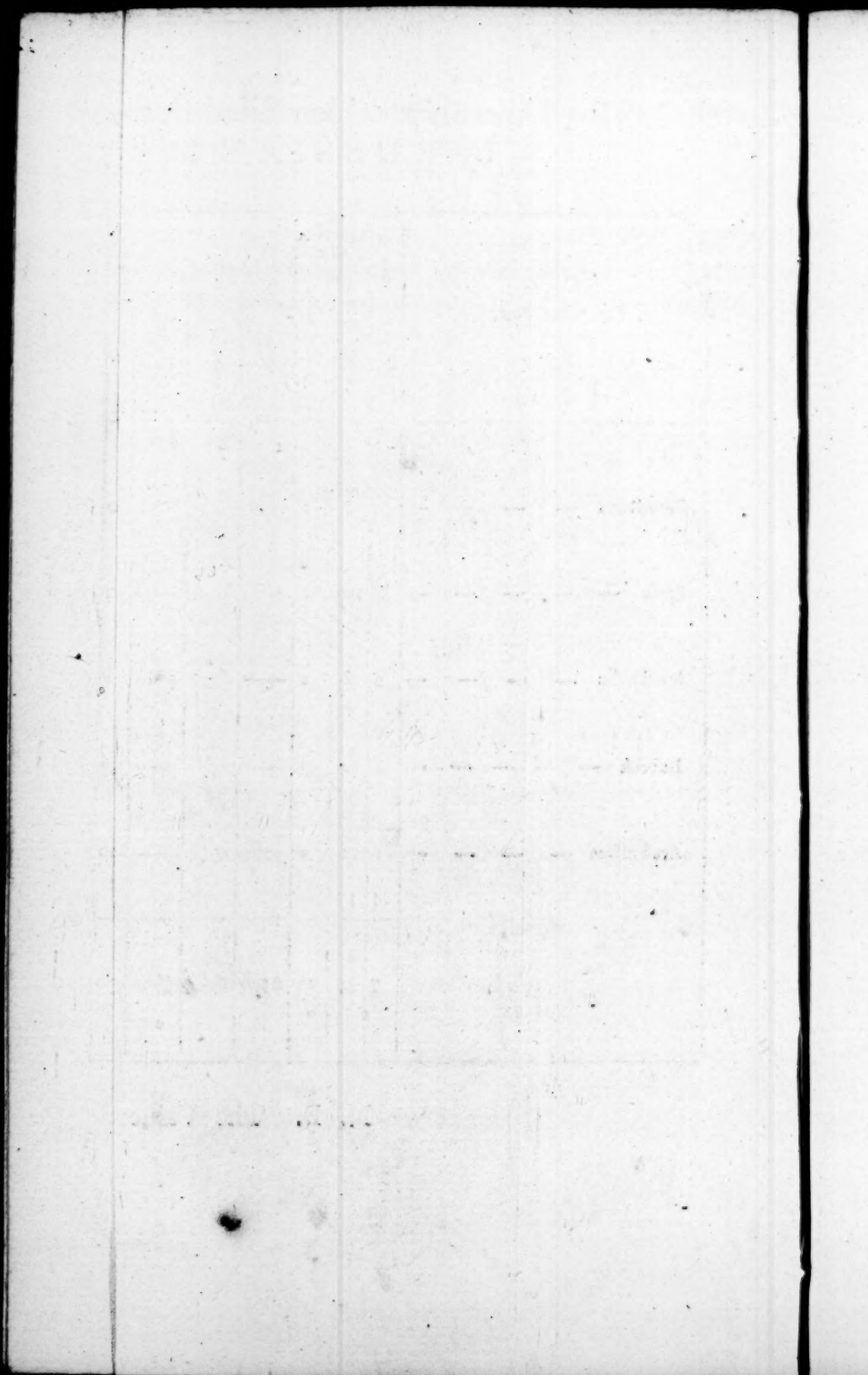




A LIST of the Ships which sailed from St. PETERSBURG, *Anno* 1766, navigated wholly or partly by R U S S I A N Subjects, with a View of the Exports by them.

For what Port.	Number of Ships.	Navigated by	G O O D S E X P O R T E D.																		
			Russians.	Foreigners.	Iron.	Clean-Hemp	Out-Arct.	Half Clean.	Codilla.	9 Head Flax	6 Head Flax	Flax Codilla.	Linen.	Tallow.	Corn.	Tobacco.	Squirrel Skins.	Deals.	Sail Cloth.	Candles.	Tonnage.
					Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Arfs.	Po.	Po.	Po.	Ps.	Ps.	Ps.	Po.
Bordeaux — — — —	1	7	1	530	579	1022	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	530	—	—	100	
Spain — — — —	1	16	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4820	—	—	250	
Stockholm — — — —	2	18	2	—	3836	4829	736	—	1253	723	733	—	12189	1290	—	—	—	—	—	500	
Lubeck — — — —	2	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11090	334	—	400	—	440	300	
Amsterdam — — — —	1	11	1	4000	4974	—	—	1327	—	—	—	45000	—	—	—	100000	—	220	—	200	
	7	64	11	9300	9389	5851	2735	1327	1253	723	733	45000	12189	12380	334	100000	5750	220	440	1350	

N. B. The Value of these Exports is about 81200 Roubles.



OBSERVATIONS.

I. By the foregoing Table there appears to have been coined prior to the reign of her present majesty.

	Ro.	Co.
Gold for - - - - -	2,807,777	25
Silver - - - - -	89,984,054	45
Copper - - - - -	11,423,687	64
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	104,215,519	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>

But this sum includes the following coins which were recoined, and at her present majesty's accession not current, viz.

	Ro.	Co.	
The St. Andrew's Ducats - -	772,122	00	
All the silver Coins from ann. 1664 to 1718 - -	29,326,804	84	
Also the silver coinage from 1713 to 1726 - -	89,748	11	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	30,188,674	95	And
	M		

[ 178 ]

Ro. Co.

Brought forward 30,188,674 95

And all the  
copper coin-  
age to the  
year 1732 -

6,786,673 00

36,975,347 95

Supposed current at her pre- Ro. Co.  
sent majesty's accession - - 67,240,171 39

II. In her pre-  
sent majesty's  
reign, to the 1st  
*January* 1767,  
there appears to

have been coin- Ro. Co.  
ed gold for - 3,520,190 50  
silver - - 12,327,960 56  
copper - - 921,910 21

16,770,061 27

Whence the money current  
seems to be - - - - 84,010,232 66

But



	Ro.	Co.
Brought forward	84,010,232	66

But by accounts from the mint, there has been re-coined since her present majesty's accession, viz.

	Ro.	Co.
All the gold ducats and imperials for -	2,035,654	25
Coinage of Peter III, Stamp	1,698,160	00
Roubles of 70 and 77 zollot-nicks, standard		
fine - - -	1,998,649	15
And exported Prussian coins -	219,904	16
	5,952,367	56

Which being deducted gives the supposed current at present -

78,057,865	10
------------	----

Ro. 78,000,000, &c.

The current specie, if all remained in the country that has been coined here, would amount to the above sum of 78 millions Ro. &c. But during the late war and the preceding wars, it is computed, that at least 35 millions of Ro. were sent out of Russia for the expences of the army, &c. So that according to that account, allowing for the exportation of 35 millions, the currency now ought to amount to 43 millions, and when the annual accumulation or balance of trade for 5 years past, since the conclusion of the peace in 1762, be added, that is to say, 3 millions *per ann.* = 15 millions; the whole present currency will now be 58 millions, but as the alloy is at least on an average, about a sixth part; the real coin in Russia amounts only to 47 millions, of which a very considerable quantity is every day withdrawn from the circulation, by numbers of ignorant peasants and traders who bury their money in the earth.

*An*

## CONCLUSION.

Having now laid before you every thing relative to this empire that has fallen under my observation, which I imagined either interesting to your curiosity or worthy of your attention. I shall only add, that no nation enjoys greater national advantages, no nation labors under fewer natural disadvantages, than Russia, and that tho' by no means wealthy in proportion to her funds, tho' by no means populous in proportion to her magnitude, yet within herself she is the richest and with respect to her neighbours she is the most formidable power in the world.

## APPENDIX.



A P P E N D I X  
CONTAINING THE  
PRESENT STATE  
OF THE  
C H U R C H  
O F  
R U S S I A.  
1767.

---

By the REV. Mr. K——.

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APPENDIX

CONTAINING

PRESIDENT STATE

OF THE

COMMON

OF

U. S. I. A.

1867

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By the Rev. Mr. R.

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# T H E

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THE  
PRESENT STATE  
OF THE  
CHURCH of *RUSSIA*.  
1767.

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*Of the Established Church.*

THE religion of *Russia*, properly so called, is that of the Eastern or Greek church ; notwithstanding there are, in the extensive dominions of the Russian empire, a great many different sects of Christians, as well as a great number of Mahometans and Pagans : and tho' no persons are excluded from any employment or office under the government on account of his religious principles, except Jews ; yet as the Sovereign and the Imperial Family

Family do always conform to the Greek church, and it is not permitted that any Russian should depart from it, who was educated in it, it may with propriety be called the national or *established* religion.

*Of the Doctrine of the Russian Church.*

The doctrine of the Russian church is contained in a book called, "A Confession of the Catholic and Apostolic Faith of the Greeks and Russians, *i. e.* of the whole Eastern or Greek Church." This confession was confirmed by the Patriarchs of Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem, on the eleventh of March, 1643; and afterwards revised and republished in the reign of the late Empress Anne, in September 1734.

The whole is oddly divided into three parts, *faith*, *hope*, and *charity* :---faith is subdivided into the twelve articles of the Nicene creed, and the seven sacraments :---hope into the Lord's prayer, and the nine beatitudes : and under charity are contained, the ten commandments; the seven gifts of the Holy Ghost; the nine precepts of the church; the seven deadly sins; seven charities to the bodies; seven



seven charities to the souls of men ; the fruits of the Holy Ghost ; occasioning the sins of others, and the four last Death, Judgment, Hell, and Heaven.

The primary object of religious worship is, undoubtedly, the Supreme Being : they hold the doctrine of the Trinity, but that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father only. They pay also a secondary adoration to the holy Virgin, to the twelve apostles, and to a vast number of saints, with which their calendar abounds : but they deny that they adore them, as believing them to be gods ; the homage paid to them being only a respect due to those who are admitted to administer to the Deity, and thinking it more modest and more available for them to intercede with God in their, favour, than to address themselves immediately to him. They assert also, that they are clearly distinguished from idolaters, notwithstanding their praying to these saints, and burning incense to them ; nor are guilty of any breach of the second commandment, which stands in their decalogue, in bowing to their pictures, because the design of Moses, according to them, in prohibiting the making, or bowing down to, graven images,

images, was solely to prohibit worshipping the idols of the gentiles, which the gentiles believed to be gods ; whereas they themselves admit no graven image, all being painted with colours.

Predestination and transubstantiation are also doctrines of their church ; and the latter is maintained as strenuously as by the papists.

*Of the service of the church.*

There are three liturgies used in their public service ; in common they use the liturgy of St. Chrysostom, and on particular holidays those of St. Basil or of St. Gregory. The style of the church service differs considerably from that of ordinary conversation, and therefore not being understood by the people in general, they are not able to make all the responses, but join in the worship by saying, " Lord, have mercy upon me : " bowing at the same time, and crossing themselves, on the forehead first, then on the breast, then on the right shoulder, and then on the left ; thereby making the figure of the cross : and with the thumb, the first and

and middle finger, by the three fingers signifying the Trinity.

The service is partly read and partly chanted, but no musical instruments are admitted ; the epistles and gospels and select passages from scripture are also read, but in the style of the church ; which, frequently, is not understood even by the priests officiating, who, nevertheless, have a knack of running over the words very fast, in a loud voice, without either stops or emphasis. Sometimes they read a homily of St. Chrysostom, and sometimes they have sermons in particular churches, but very rarely ; for no one is permitted to preach, without a special licence for that purpose. During the service, the priests or some officiating deacons frequently perfume the congregation with incense, and sprinkle them with holy water, which are much used in all their religious ceremonies. The congregation never sit, nor often kneel ; they express their outward adoration by bowing and crossing themselves ; and some, as penances, others, from a principle of devotion, bow so low as to beat their foreheads against the floor.

*Of*

*Of the times of Worship, and of the Fasts  
and Festivals.*

The hours of the ordinary daily service are in the morning very early ; for mattins, at noon ; and in the evening, for vespers.

The observation of fasts and festivals constitute an essential part of their devotion both public and private, and the former exceed in number and severity those of the papists. There are four great fasts or lents in the year, in which they neither eat flesh, milk, eggs, nor butter, but confine themselves to vegetables, bread, and fish fried in oil.

The fast before Easter is regulated by that moveable feast, and begins eight weeks before it : in the first week they eat butter, eggs, and milk, but not flesh ; whence it is called *butter-week*, and may be looked upon as their carnival ; for it is spent in public diversions, and all kinds of licentiousness.

The next is called St. Peter's fast, and continues from the Monday after Whitsunday to the 29th of June ; and consequently

frequently is sometimes longer, sometimes shorter.

The fast of the Blessed Virgin is immoveable ; it begins always on the first, and continues to the 15th day of August.

St. Philip's fast is also immoveable, beginning on the 15th of November, and continuing to the 25th of December.

These are the four lents, besides which, their usual weekly fasts are Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year.

The festivals of the church are too many to be enumerated, the principal of which are the same as in other christian churches : besides which, almost every day in the year is dedicated to some inferior saint, either the patron of a province or of a parish ; nay, even their houses are believed to have their guardian saints ; and so numerous are they, that sometimes three or four saints have but one day. St. Nicholas is the patron of the province of Archangel ; and hence it is, that in earliest accounts given of this country, he is erroneously called the patron of Russia, which is not the case ; but Archangel being the place to which the English first traded, they were easily led into the mistake.

N

To



To these must be added the several state festivals ; as the commemoration of the battle of Pultawa, on the 27th of July ; the festivals of the regiments of guards ; the birth-day, names-day, accession and coronation of the sovereign ; the birth-day and names-day of the grand duke ; and the three orders of knight-hood.

On all these days they have particular services or collects ; and on several they have grand processions of the clergy, at some of which her Imperial Majesty and the court assist ; particularly on twelfth-day, and on 30th of August, being the day of the order of St. Alexander.

On twelfth day or the Epiphany, they have a very singular ceremony of christening, or blessing the water. There is a kind of alcove or temple of wood, painted green and gilt, hung with various pictures, particularly of St. John the baptist, erected for the occasion upon the ice on the river before the palace ; it is fenced round with a temporary hedge of the boughs of fir-trees ; this temple is called the Jordan ; in the middle of it the ice is broken to the water about eight or ten feet square : the bishops and clergy come in a solemn procession from the  
 chapel

chapel of the palace, with her imperial Majesty, and sanctify the water in the river by dipping the crosses into it, and performing a service. After which they sprinkle the standards, the artillery, and the soldiers of as many regiments as are near the city, which are all drawn up round the place; and bottles of the water are sent to such regiments as are at too great a distance to attend. The common people are of opinion that the water, thus sanctified, has a virtue to cure all true believers in the Greek church of bodily as well as spiritual diseases: and some men, tho' it be in the severest weather, strip and bathe in the river: it is very common to dip children; and sick persons are brought to drink the water, for they seem to choose it as near this spot as they can, tho' they maintain that, after the benediction, all the waters are sanctified and as good and efficacious as these: most of the vulgar wash their faces at least, and carry bottles of it home to keep for their family use, in case of wounds or sickness, and to exorcise evil spirits from their houses. This is performed three other days, but not with the same pomp.

At Easter the Russians have a ceremony of congratulating each other on the holiday, by presenting an egg and kissing one another, and saying, "Christ is risen," to which the other replies "he is risen indeed," which custom doubtless arose from this being the first day of eating eggs or meat after the long fast. On Easter-eve the service of the church begins about midnight, and lasts two or three hours; and as soon as they return home they have a plentiful entertainment provided of all kinds of meat, at which, tho' so early in the morning, they indulge themselves very largely.

On the 23d day of April there is a ceremony of blessing the cattle, as it is called, which has been often represented as very ridiculous, because the priest sprinkles them with holy water; but, in reality, the intention of the service is only to pray to God to preserve them from murrain, and to bless the food of the earth, this being the first day of turning them to graze, after they have been stalled so many months as the long winter in this climate continues.

On

☞ On the 6th day of August, there is a service vulgarly called *blessing the apples*, till after which they are not permitted to be eaten: but the true intention of it, is a thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth.

*Of the Sacraments of the Russian Church.*

In the Russian church there are seven sacraments, *viz.* baptism, baptismal unction, the eucharist, ordination, penance, marriage and extreme unction: the two former, tho' distinct sacraments, (there being no confirmation in this church,) are administered at the same time.

*Baptism* they look upon as the most essential point of religion; for they hold the doctrine of original sin: and persons who have been notorious offenders and excommunicated, or considered as reprobates and apostates, are readmitted, as members of the church, by repeating their baptism; which, in that case, is usually performed on the Epiphany, the day of calling the gentiles. There have been instances of the same person being baptized ten or twelve times.

As soon as a child is born, unless it be too weak, it is carried to church by the god-fathers and god-mothers, where being met at the door by the priest he signs the child with the sign of the cross on the forehead, and gives it the benediction, saying, " The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in." They then walk up together to the font, which is placed in the middle of the church ; round the edge of which the priest fastens four lighted wax-candles, delivered to him by the sponsors, whom he incenses and consecrates the water by dipping the cross into it with a great deal of ceremony : then begins a procession round the font, the clerk goes before with the image of St. John the baptist, being followed by the sponsors with wax candles in their hands, thus they go about it three times, while the priest reads the service : the procession being over, the sponsors give the name of the child to the priest in writing, which, among the common people, is usually that of the saint of the day, or within eight days nearest it, either preceding or following ; but this is not much observed among the gentry, who chooses to keep family names ;



names ; the priest puts the name upon an image, which he holds upon the child's breast, and asks the sponsors, " whether the child believes in God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost," having answered " yes" three times, they all turn their backs to the font, as a sign of their aversion to the three next questions to be asked by the priest, *viz.* " whether the child renounces the devil? whether he renounces his angels? whether he renounces his works?" The sponsors answer " I renounce" distinctly to each question, and spit three times upon the ground, as a mark of detestation. Then they turn their faces to the font again, and being asked by the priest, " whether they promise to bring up the child in the true Greek religion," the exorcism begins ; the priest puts his hand upon the child, and blows three times, saying these words, " get out of this child thou unclean spirit, and make way for the Holy Ghost:" he then cuts off a lock of the child's hair, and wraps it up in a piece of wax, and throws it into the font ; after which the child is stripped quite naked, and the priest takes it in his arms, and plunges it in the water

three times, pronouncing the words of the sacrament, " I baptize thee in the name  
 " of the Father, and of the Son, and of  
 " the Holy Ghost."

Immediately after the immersion, he signs it with the sign of the cross, with an oil consecrated by a superior bishop, on the forehead, on the breast, on the shoulders, on the palms of the hands, and on the back. This is another sacrament called the chrism, or *baptismal unction*, and by virtue of this, it is supposed, the child receives the Holy Ghost. The priest having put a corn of salt in its mouth, puts a clean shirt upon it, and says, " thou art as clean and clear from  
 " original sin as thy shirt." He then hangs about its neck a little cross of gold, silver or lead, which is strictly preserved by the Russians, who deny christian burial to such as have not one about them when they die : in cases of necessity, the midwife or any other person, except the parents, can administer baptism. Those who are sponsors for the same child are looked upon as so nearly related, they are not permitted to inter-marry.

Concerning

Concerning the *eucharist*, the chief things remarkable are, that the bread must be leavened, and made into small cakes and marked with the sign of the cross; they mix warm water with the wine, and put the bread into it, having first broken it, and deliver both the elements together in a spoon to the communicants. This sacrament is administered to infants as soon as they are baptized; and the common people if a child is ill, considered it as the best remedy. Every person is obliged to communicate once a year; and to confess to the priest, tho' by his connivance this law is often evaded, as, for a few copecks, he sets down any one's name as having received.

With respect to *ordination* there are no great qualifications required for the inferior priests especially, the chief requisites are sobriety and good manners, and that they can read in their own language, and write.

As to *penance*, the usual penances prescribed by the priests are an attendance at a certain number of masses, alms, fastings, and pilgrimages: but it is particularly provided by the spiritual regulation of Peter the great, in the year 1722, that  
no

no priest or confessor should exact money of his penitents for his own account before he grants absolution ; auricular confession is esteemed necessary, and, if the penitent confesses any treasonable design against the government, the priest is obliged to report it immediately to the bishop : the power of excommunicating is vested solely in the synod.

*Marriage* is accounted very honourable among the Russians, and very few, except such as are in monasteries, either men or women are unmarried after they are of age to marry : polygamy is prohibited, nor can any one marry more than three times. Formerly all matches were made by the parents of the parties, sometimes without so much as the young persons having seen each other ; but a more polite intercourse of the sexes has taken place since the reformation of Peter the great ; yet still the consent of parents is essential to marriage. During the ruder and more barbarous ages the ceremonies of marriage were very numerous and particular ; and among the lower class of people, especially in the villages, several of those ceremonies are still retained ; but by persons of superior rank they are entirely

tirely abolished, tho' they make very splendid entertainments on these occasions : the bridegroom and bride exchange rings as a token of affection, and at the conclusion of the service, in church, the priest finishes with these words, " whom " God hath joined together, let no man " put asunder." It is remarkable that the parents of the parties are never permitted to be in the church during the ceremony. With regard to the lowest class, they as being vassals must have the consent of the lord to whom they belong ; especially if the woman desires to marry the slave of another lord, in which case, it is usual to agree for a female in return, because the property of the children belongs to him to whom the husband belongs. The only causes on which divorces are admitted, are, either when the man from a principle of devotion goes into a monastery, or persuades or forces his wife into one, or can actually make proof of adultery against her.

*Extreme unction* can only be administered by a priest, and to a person of the true Greek religion, confession is necessary previous to it, and prayer during the performance.

*Of*



*Of the funeral ceremonies of the Russians.*

The ceremonies of their interments, at present, are much fewer, than in former times ; such as are most remarkable and different from other European nations, are those which follow.

Burying the dead is one of the seven charities to the bodies of men, mentioned under the doctrine of the church ; and the poorest people are often buried by contribution, which some of the friends of the deceased collect by begging with a wax-candle laid upon a plate : and sometimes the corpse is laid in the public streets, with a plate and a wax-candle, or incense set upon it.

Persons of condition, as soon as any one of the family is dead and laid out, send to the priests, who attend alternately in the room, and read the psalter night and day without intermission, till the time of the funeral. When the deceased is laid in the coffin, which is generally covered with scarlet cloth or velvet, his arms are laid cross his breast, and a printed paper, a  
kind

kind of label, is put upon his forehead, with this ejaculation, " O most holy, " almighty, and everlasting God, have " mercy upon me ;" another paper is put into his hand containing two prayers ; the one is composed in the first person, as the prayer of a departing soul for forgiveness of his sins, and for a blessing on his family and friends, whom he has left behind him : the second is an absolution supposed to be pronounced by the bishop or confessor, whose name is inserted in it. This paper is doubtless what has been so universally represented by foreigners, as a pass-port to St. Peter ; but it is so far from it, that it is expressly said not to be necessary, but merely voluntary, and it is only used in burials of ceremony, at least very seldom in others.

At the funeral, the coffin is covered with a pall of rich brocade or tissue, which is afterwards made into vestments for the priests, frequently at the expence of the family of the deceased, and presented to the church : the priests and choristers walk before the corpse to the grave, carrying the cross, &c. chanting psalms during the whole procession ; all  
who

who attend the funeral rites follow it with wax-candles lighted in their hands, as soon as they come to the grave these are all changed, and every person present, be their number ever so great, has one given them to hold, which are all left in the church, as perquisites to the priests : the coffin is always uncovered during the service, and before the lid is fastened down, the friends and relations of the deceased take their last farewell, some kissing him, some the coffin : there is afterwards a service performed upon the grave, morning and evening, for six weeks, and every fortieth day for the first year, and afterwards annually upon the return of the day on which he died, and upon his names-day. This custom, it should seem, is chiefly or solely to testify the respect of the living ; for it is continued as long as any of the family choose to pay for it ; and the Russian church absolutely denies the doctrine of purgatory, tho' it admits prayers for the dead to be a most ancient and pious custom.

*Of*

*Of the churches, and their ornaments.*

The churches are built of brick or wood, the former are not inelegant buildings, tho' usually overloaded with decorations, according to the style of their architecture ; some are built in the form of a cross, others are oblong, others nearly square, they have always a large dome with a cross at the top, and sometimes four smaller cupolas, with crosses ; they are generally covered with plates of iron, either white, or painted green, and the ornaments gilt, or in some churches the whole domes are entirely gilt on the outside, which has a fine effect. Over the doors, and over the gates of the church-yard are placed the pictures of the saint to whom the church is dedicated, and many others ; to these the people bow and cross themselves before they enter the church ; and even, in passing them on the road, they seldom omit this mark of respect. The chiming of bells is looked upon as essential to the service, so that every church has them ; they are always fixed immoveably to the  
beams

beams which support them, and are rung by tying a rope to the clapper of the bell.

In the inside, there are several different chapels, dedicated to different saints; many of the churches are profusely gilt, and all are hung with a vast number of pictures; some of which, particularly at the Trinity monastery, near Moscow, which is the Loretto of this country, are ornamented with jewels and precious stones, round the frames, to a great value. Before these pictures, on the saints days in the calendar, they always burn wax-candles. There are no forms or seats in any church, but there is a sort of tribunal in every one, with a canopy over it, and a rail before it for the Empress, who never sits down.

At the east end of every church is the altar, with a rail before it, always more richly gilt and decorated with more pictures, than any other part of the church; in the middle of which is a kind of screen or folding doors, which opens into another apartment, which seems to represent the *sanctum sanctorum* of the Jewish temple, in this is the table of the shew-bread,  
and



and here the elements for the eucharist are consecrated : on the sides are other apartments, where the relicts belonging to the church are deposited, and the vestments of the priests are kept : for these vestments which are the property of the church, and only are worn during the service, are in many places exceedingly rich : those of the superior clergy are of the finest gold or silver tissues, silks, velvets, and cloth of gold, decorated with vast quantities of pearls, and other jewels ; and it is said, that the pearls in the habits of the clergy at the Trinity monastery would fill a bushel measure ; and one ruby only, in one of the Archimandrite's mitres, for there are three mitres, is worth 20,000 Ro. there is also a cross which he carries, set with jewels, presented by the late empress Elizabeth, which is valued at 200,000 Ro. The shrine of St. Alexander Neufsky, in the church of the monastery dedicated to him near St. Petersburg, is of massy silver, with his banners of the same, and the story of his actions executed in basso relievo ; this was likewise presented by the same Empress.

*General reflections on the religious principles  
of the Russians.*

That the Russians are very superstitious, will readily be imagined by every one, who considers that ignorance is the mother of superstition ; and so little are the vulgar informed of the principles of their religion, that scarcely any of them are able to repeat the Creed or the Lord's prayer by heart ; their usual devotion being only to cross themselves, and say, " Lord have mercy upon me." Yet this they never omit morning and evening, before and after eating or drinking, or whenever they set about a new work ; inasmuch, that seldom does a common carrier or post-boy set out on a journey without crossing himself.

It has been remarked, that no people of any nation in the world, pays a greater regard to a solemn oath made before a magistrate, than the Russians ; indeed, by the constitution of their government this is very seldom done in any judicial process ; never but when other proofs, from the circumstances of the transaction

transaction cannot be had ; in which case, it being left to either of the parties to swear to the truth of his allegations, it has scarcely ever happened that both have offered to swear. And yet, in common conversation, not only the vulgar, but persons of the first quality, even the ladies, express themselves by an oath, as familiarly as by the most common expletives.

Religious pictures are not only the furniture of their churches, but are in every public office or college, and in a corner of every apartment of each college, as well as in all the rooms of every private house, to which all persons bow and cross themselves before they address any one in the room ; nor is there a shop at the public markets without them. Tho' the superstitious use of pictures is very great in this country ; tho' they are, and must be all executed by members of the Greek church only, it must be observed, that the same cause which produced excellence in painting thro' Italy, and other popish countries, has been utterly unoperative here : they have never had one good painter, or one capital picture in Russia ;

on the contrary, they are generally most miserable dawblings, some of which, notwithstanding, are said to be the work of angels.

It is likewise remarkable, that tho' their religious ceremonies are very numerous, the decorations of their churches very glaring and profuse, the sacred utensils very magnificent, the habits of their priests very splendid, the austerity of their fasts very rigid, and the observation of holidays very frequent ; yet, their worship is so far from being captivating, that it appears exceedingly irregular and slovenly ; nor is there perhaps, any people upon earth, where there is less appearance of seriousness and devotion, in the public service ; or among whom the national clergy are so little respected, or rather so universally despised ; notwithstanding the third precept of the church expressly enjoins the reverencing of the ministers.

It is true, that except some few of the superior clergy, they have had no education, and are generally taken from the lowest of the people, who are not absolutely slaves ; their appointments are also very inconsiderable, and their stated per-  
quisites

quisites so very small, that they depend chiefly on the voluntary donations of their flocks ; their inferior priests, likewise, are full as much addicted to the vice of drunkenness, as the meanest of the people, tho' by the canons they are liable to a sentence of degradation for it : to all which may be added, what is also peculiar to this country, that the people, ignorant as they are, are yet more enlightened than the clergy ; and that the reformation, in civil affairs, has made a much greater progress, than in ecclesiastical. Even the superior clergy are not on so respectable a footing, as in most other countries, where they are often persons of the first families, which is very seldom the case in Russia : however, they have some outward marks of respect paid them ; for the gentry, of the highest rank, will not scruple to kiss the hands of a bishop, and demand his blessing.

Upon the whole, it may with justice be said, there is amongst them the greatest degree of superstition and bigotry, the lowest notions of the duties of morality, and the most idolatrous ideas of the adoration of the Deity imaginable : for it is thought, that building a church, per-



forming a pilgrimage, giving alms, or abstaining from meat, is a compensation for any breach of the moral law ; and it is as certain, as natural, that the pictures and saints of the priests are the gods of the vulgar ; who cannot salve their idolatry with art and distinction, but worship with their heart what they behold with their eyes. And as to those of superior rank and better education, especially such as have travelled, if they have discovered the absurdity of their earlier principles, and surmounted those prejudices, they have generally stopt at that point, and are, for the most part, sceptics, without any religion at all, and commonly without knowing why they are so ; taking up their infidelity upon trust, from those with whom they have chanced to converse abroad, or from a few foreign books they have read ; and following those guides as implicitly, as others follow the superstitions of their ancestors.

No account is here given of the miracles said to have been wrought by their saints, many of which, even of the most received, are too ridiculous to be related : and it must be confessed, this is not the age for propogating them ; especially, since  
by

by the spiritual regulation of 1722, it is particularly provided, that no new ones be admitted without a more severe scrutiny, than those of former ages could possibly have stood the test of ; and that very heavy punishments be inflicted upon such as should attempt to impose upon the popular credulity.

*Of the bishops of the Russian church.*

The Russian clergy are divided into regular and secular : of the former, the superiors are metropolitans, archbishops and bishops ; which titles, of archbishop or metropolitan, are not annexed to the episcopal see, except to those of Novogorod, Moscow, Petersburg, and Kiow in little Russia : but as to the rest, they are entirely personal distinctions, which the crown confers according to its own pleasure, tho' in general, seniority is regarded in granting them. The bishopricks are ranged into three classes, and that arrangement also depends wholly on the will of the sovereign, who disposes absolutely of all dignities in the church : the synod, indeed, proposes the candidates, of which number one is usually named, tho'

sometimes the whole list is set aside, and no attention paid to it. It is not necessary that the bishops should be chosen out of the monastic order, tho' they always assume it, as soon as they are elected.

The names of the archbishops and bishops according to their classes: M. S. signifies member of the synod.

First CLASS 3.

Demetrius, metropolitan and archbishop of Novogorod and Velikoluzk, first member of the synod.

Timothy, metropolitan and archbishop of Moscow and Calouga. M. S.

Gabriel, archbishop of Peterfbourg and Revel. M. S.

Second CLASS 8.

Innocent, bishop of Plescow and Riga. M. S.

Benjamin, archbishop of Cazan and Swi-azkij. M. S.

Methodius, bishop of Astracan and Stauropol.

Paul, metropolitan of Tobolsky and Siberia.

Athanasius,

Athanasius, bishop of Rostow and Jaras-  
laff. M. S.

Ambrose, archbishop of Croutisky and  
Mogeaïsk. M. S.

Palladius, bishop of Rezan and Schatzk.  
M. S.

Gabriel, bishop of Tweor and Kaschinz.

Third CLASS 14.

Parthenius, bishop of Smolensko and Do-  
rogobusch.

Porphirius, bishop of Bellegorod and O-  
boiansk. M. S.

Gennadius, bishop of Soufdal and Jour-  
jeff.

Joseph, bishop of Wologda and Bielosero.

Theodosius, bishop of Colomna and Kos-  
chin.

Bartholomew, bishop of Wiatka and Great  
Permie.

Joasaph, bishop of Archangel and Chol-  
mogorskij.

Theodosius, bishop of Oustiuga and Ro-  
temsky.

Tichon, bishop of Woronetz and Jeletz-  
kij.

Sophronius, bishop of Irkoutsky and  
Nertzschinsk.

Sylvester, bishop of Pereslaff and Dmitreff.  
Damascenus,

Damascenus, bishop of Kostroma and Galitsch.

Paul, bishop of Waladimer and Mourom.

Pachomius, bishop of Tamboff and Pensa.

The two Vice-bishops are,  
One of Novogorod, John, bishop of Olo-  
netz and Hargopol.

The other of Moscow, Tichon, bishop of  
Sewsk and Briansk,

The bishops of the second class, all  
rank as archbishops. Besides the above  
list, there are five bishops in little Russia,  
and four Georgian, who do not belong to  
these classes,

*Of the Monks and their Convents.*

The only order of monks in this coun-  
try, is that of St. Basil, or as it is some-  
times called of St. Anthony, he having  
first introduced that order into Russia.  
They are admitted by the tonsure, a very  
small part of the crown of the head being  
shaved; the rules respecting their fasts and  
prayers are very rigid; their habits are  
black, which, it is said, are made in shape  
to resemble a coffin, those who assume it,  
being



being considered as dead to the world, upon their heads they wear a black broad hood. Married persons, as was observed before, may enter into the monastic life.

The monasteries or abbies are divided into two sorts, one called *stawropigualni*, the other ordinary. The abbots of the former are called Archimandrites (from *μαρτυρα*, *septum*, *sepimentum*) they are of a superior rank, and may be reckoned equal to mitred abbots, tho' they, as well as the bishops in this country, wear only a bonnet or hood, except when they are officiating: neither they nor their monasteries are subject to the bishop of the diocese, but to the synod only, having formerly been subject to the patriarch alone.

Hiero-monachi, and Hiero-diaconi, are ecclesiastics who officiate in monasteries, yet are capable of higher preferments in the church.

The whole number of monks is 2842.

The monasteries, like the bishopricks, are divided into three classes, that of the Troitza or Trinity is not ranked among the rest, the Archimandrite of which is a member of the synod.

In

In the first class there are fifteen monasteries, six of which are Stawpiguialni. } 15

In the second class there are forty two, four of which are Stawropiguialni. } 42

In the third class there are an hundred monasteries, which are governed by priors or Egumens, (perhaps from *ego duco*. ) 100

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157

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### *Of the Nuns and their Convents.*

No woman can, regularly, be admitted into a nunnery till fifty years of age; nevertheless, this rule is not strictly observed, for some are admitted at fourteen or fifteen years of age, and, in short, of every age. They as well as the monks, are admitted by the tonsure, when they assume the veil, and their habits are also long black gowns, and broad black hood, which falls back upon their shoulders; when they attend divine service, they have a crape or veil which covers the upper part  
of

of the face. Their hours of prayer, and the rigour of their fasts, differ very little from those of the monks. But tho' their life is devoted to the exercise of religion, they are by no means confined to their cloisters, with such severity as in Roman-catholic countries. They are not at liberty to quit their order; notwithstanding, there are a few instances of such dispensations having been granted.

The principal or head of these convents is called Egumena. The whole number of nuns is 1366.

These convents are also divided into three classes; that of the resurrection at St. Petersburg is not reckoned in the number, but receives its appointment immediately from the Empress, who in the year 1763, established a school or academy there, for the education of two hundred young ladies of noble families, and two hundred and forty girls of inferior rank; who are all educated and maintained at the expence of the crown.

In

In the first class there are	4 nunneries,
In the second class	18
In the third class	45
	<u>67</u>

*Of the secular Clergy.*

The secular priests are called popes, *i. e.* fathers : they are the parochial clergy, and are those, who being the lowest and the most ignorant, are generally the least esteemed. They are commonly named by the bishop of the diocese, and sometimes by the crown : they are always married, but are permitted to marry only once ; and when the wife dies, they are obliged to retire to some monastery, or to take some inferior office in the church, or else entirely to quit their order.

Their children are usually brought up to the church, and sometimes arrive at the highest dignities in it.

The heads or governors of this order, under the bishops, are called proto-popes : some of whom are sometimes members of the synod.

It

It is not easy to ascertain the exact number of the secular priests, for in the revision, they are reckoned with their wives and children, and amount to 168,519 males, and 163,263 females; but they are usually estimated at about 25,000 officiating priests.

They receive their salary, which is not more than 15 roubles *per annum* each, from the college of œconomy, according to their classes; the rest of their subsistence arises from the perquisites of their office, which are rated very low, nor can they demand any thing further, tho' it is usual for those who can afford it, to give them some small gratuity beyond their stated fees.



*Of the revenues of the church.*

Formerly the churches and monasteries had their own lands and slaves, from whence their revenues arose, but since the crown has taken those lands into its own possession, the appointments of the several archbishops, bishops, &c. are all settled, as in the following list, according to their classes : besides which, each bishop and abbot has the ecclesiastical dues and perquisites arising from his diocese or abby.

Bishops of the 1st class.		Ro.	Co.
Archbishop of Novogorod, &c.	-	11931	20
of Moscow, &c.	- -	7519	85
of Petersburg, &c.	-	15000	00

Bishops of the 2d class.			
Bishop of Plescow, &c.	- - -	6000	00
7 bishops, at 5000 Ro. each	- -	35000	00

Bishops of the 3d class.			
14, at 4232 Ro. 20 Cop. each	-	59250	80

Two vice-bishops.			
At 4039 Ro. 80 Cop. each	- -	8061	60

Carried forward		141854	45
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Abbot

	Ro.	Co.
Brought forward	141854	45
Abbot of Trinity monastery - -	10070	00
Monasteries of the 1st class.		
15, at 2017 Ro. 50 Cop. each abbot	30262	50
Monasteries of the 2d class.		
42, at 1311 Ro. 90 Cop. each abbot	55099	80
Monasteries of the 3d class.		
100, at 806 Ro. 30 Cop. each prior	80630	00
Nunneries of the 1st class.		
Of the Ascension at Moscow - -	2009	80
The Novodevitschei, or new convent	2009	80
Of the Assumption of the Virgin at } Pereflaff - - - - - }	2007	70
Of the protection of the virgin at } Soufdal - - - - - }	1506	30
Nunneries of the 2d class.		
18, at 475 Ro. 80 Cop. each - -	8564	40
Nunneries of the 3d class.		
45, at 375 Ro. 60 Cop. each - -	16902	00
Allowed to the cathedral churches, } and some others, suppose 30, at } 3130 Ro. - - - - - }	93900	00
Her majesty's gift of - - - - -	32480	00
Secular priests, 25000, at 15 Ro. } each - - - - - }	375000	00
Total -	852296	75
P		Of

*Of the Ecclesiastical Government.*

Christianity, it is generally agreed, was first received in this country towards the end of the tenth century ; from which time this church had always been subject to the patriarch of Constantinople till the year 1588 ; when the archbishop of Novogorod was consecrated patriarch of the Russian church, which denied the pretensions of that of Constantinople, and declared itself independent. Yet it appears that since that period they have frequently appealed to the see of Constantinople : Alexis Michaelowich, for instance, father of Peter the Great, having been excommunicated by the patriarch of Moscow, obtained the protection of the patriarch of Constantinople against the insult, and by his authority deposed the Russian patriarch.

About the year 1701, upon the death of Adrian the last patriarch, Peter the Great entirely suppressed that dignity, and declared himself head of the church ; and, in the year 1722, instituted a spiritual college, for the government of the church, called, “ The holy legislative “ synod,”

This

This college consisted at first of twelve members ; three of whom were always bishops ; but the number has since varied according to the will of the Sovereign, who nominates every member, and at present there are only five and the chief procureur, who is always a civilian, and considered as placed there on the part of the crown, and no vote or resolution can pass till he has approved it. The present members are,

Demetrius, metropolitan of Novogorod and Velikoluzk.

Gabriel, archbishop of St. Petersburg and Revel, and archimandrite of the convent of St. Alexander Neufsky.

Innocent, bishop of Plescow and Riga.

M. de Melissino, chief procureur actual counsellor of state.

Bartholomew, archimandrite of the convent of Znamensky.

Theodore, proto-pope of the cathedral of the Assumption of Moscow.

The archbishop of Novogorod is first and perpetual member, and as such receives a salary of 1500 Roubles *per ann.* the rest attend by turns for a year, more or less, as the Sovereign pleases, and have 1000 Roubles during their attendance on the

the college ; those who have once been members of the synod always retain the title : each member is obliged to take an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign, couched in the strongest terms, before they are qualified to sit.

This board is invested with the power which had been lodged in the hands of the patriarch ; all disputes between bishops, or persons belonging to different dioceses, are referred hither : so that, tho' every bishop has the government of his own diocese in ecclesiastical matters, there always lies an appeal from him to the synod ; and the power of excommunication is vested only in the college.

#### *Of Tolerated Religions.*

There is no country in the world where all religions are more freely tolerated than in Russia ; the Jews and the Jesuits only are excepted, and some few even of these are connived at ; however, by the constitution, all the different sects of Christians, Mahometans, and Pagans, are freely suffered to enjoy their own worship.

All Russes who are separatists from the established church, are called *Raskalsbiks*,  
i. e.



*i. e.* schismatics : from which common appellation, it has been frequently misunderstood that they are only one sect ; whereas there are several subdivisions among them, one sect differing from another as much as from the established church. Some do not conform to the liturgies of the church ; others do not admit the same confession of faith, adhering to that of Nichon, tho' the difference is little more material than the date of the addition : others in the way of making the sign of the cross, with two fingers only instead of three ; and among them they pretend to have curious collections of the hands of dead saints, to shew in what manner they bent their fingers in crossing themselves as they were dying ; these, likewise never pronounce the hallelujah three times : others there are which resemble the Quakers, in having no priesthood ; but notwithstanding, they have the sacraments, which may be administered by any one, man or woman. Besides these, there are a great many other tenets, too many to be noticed in particular.

In former reigns these separatists have undergone great persecutions, which, as  
has

has always been the case in religious persecutions, served only to increase their number, and the prejudices of the converts. At present they are permitted to enjoy their private sentiments, and to worship the Deity according to their consciences : only they are obliged to pay the crown one rouble and twenty copecks *per* head, which is equal to the poll-tax, for the privilege : in consequence of which milder treatment they decline daily, and the whole number at present is between forty and fifty thousand males and \* females who pay the tax : tho' it is supposed there are many more who do not avow their principles.

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\* Males only pay the tax.

THE END.



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